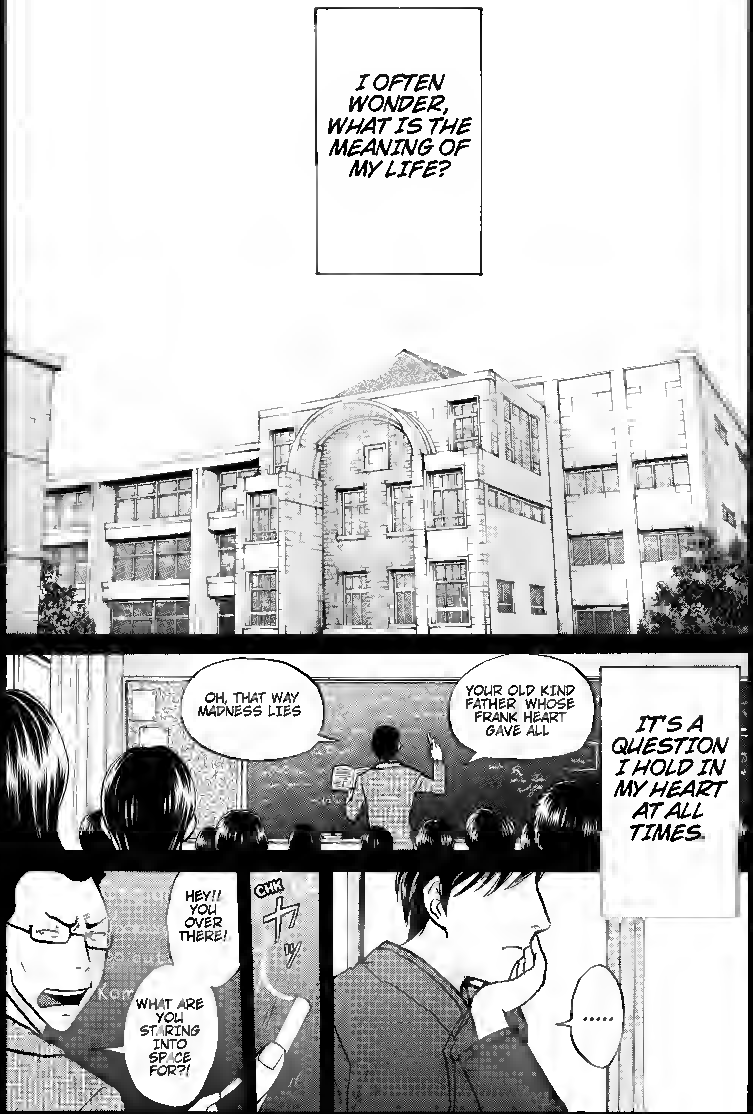

I OFTEN WONDER, WHAT IS THE MEANING OF MY LIFE?
OH, THAT WAY MADNESS LIES
YOUR OLD KIND FATHER WHOSE FRANK HEART GAVE ALL
IT'S A QUESTION I HOLD IN MY HEART AT ALL TIMES.
HEY!! YOU OVER THERE!
WHAT ARE YOU STARING INTO SPACE FOR?!
CHK
.....

!
YOICHI TAKATO!

KINDAICHI CASE FILES: TAKATO'S SIDE

Translated by Abby Lehrke
YKS SERVICES LLC / SKY JAPAN, Inc.

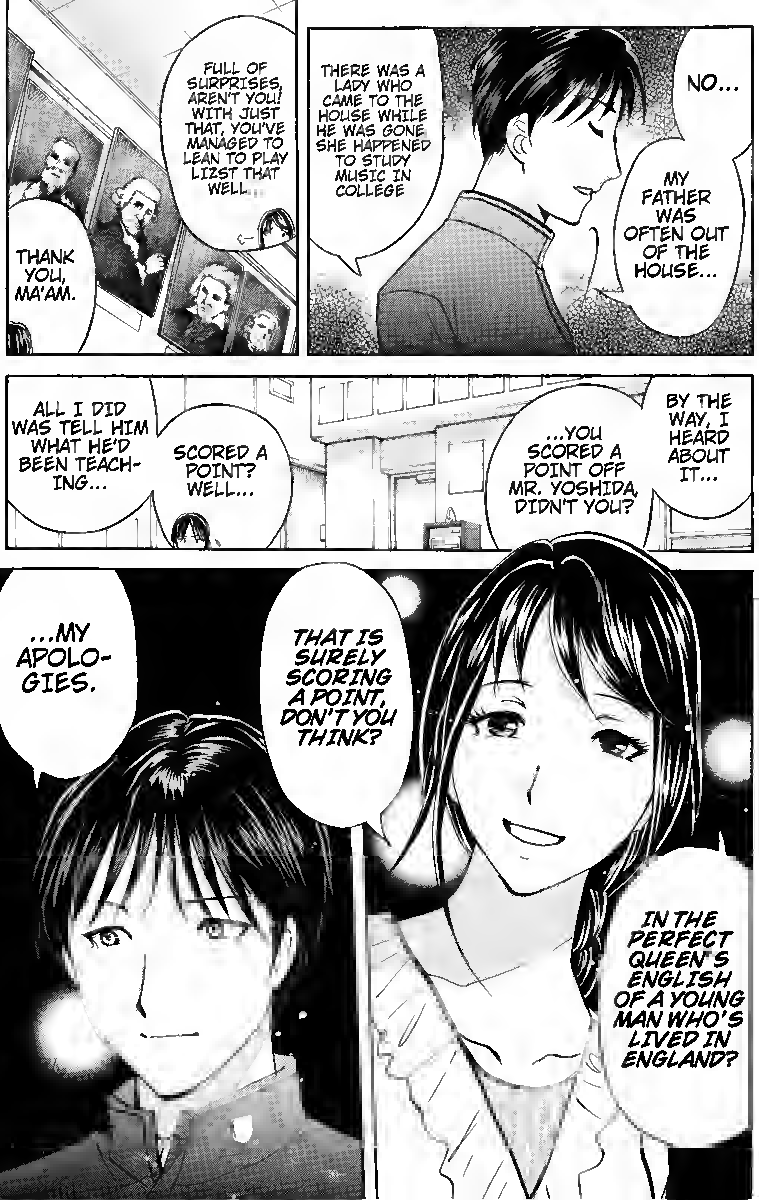
WHAT'S WITH THAT FACE?
DESPITE NOT PAYING ATTENTION IN CLASS, YOU HAVE NOT A OUNCE OF REGRET!
....
HERE AT SHUOH HIGH SCHOOL, PEOPLE WHO ARE NOT COMMITTED FAIL CLASS AFTER CLASS.
THE PEN AND THE SWORD! STUDENTS HERE MUST PUT FORTH THEIR FULL EFFORT IN BOTH THEIR STUDIES AND SPORTS.
....
SHF
WHY YOU LITTLE!!
GRRR

CLACK
TNK
STOMP STOMP
YOU...!!
....
WH... WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?!
ARE YOU TRYING TO DEFY YOUR TEACHER?

YOUR OLD KIND FATHER, WHOSE FRANK HEART GAVE ALL.
OH. THAT WAY MADNESS LIES. LET ME SHUN THAT. NO MORE OF THAT.
SHAKE-SPEARE'S KING LEAR, ACT 3, SCENE 4. "THE HEATH. BEFORE A HOVEL."
WH?!
THE GRIEVING WORDS OF A KING LOST IN THE WILDS, AREN'T THEY?
I TRUST THIS IS GOOD ENOUGH FOR YOU, SIR.
....
I WAS LISTEN-ING TO YOUR CLASS.
...I... I SEE! WELL!!
SHIRL
THAT'S FINE, THEN.

....
WOWW
...
MUSIC ROOM

SORRY FOR ALWAYS MAKING YOU LET ME PLAY.
IT'S JUST FINE! DID YOU TAKE LESSONS FROM A MASTER IN ENGLAND?
MS. HIMENO!
YOUR SKILLS ARE AS AMAZING AS EVER, TAKATO-KUN!
CLAP CLAP
CLAP CLAP
!


NO...
MY FATHER WAS OFTEN OUT OF THE HOUSE...
THERE WAS A LADY WHO CAME TO THE HOUSE WHILE HE WAS GONE. SHE HAPPENED TO STUDY MUSIC IN COLLEGE
FULL OF SURPRISES, AREN'T YOU! WITH JUST THAT, YOU'VE MANAGED TO LEAN TO PLAY LIZST THAT WELL.
THANK YOU, MA'AM.
BY THE WAY, I HEARD ABOUT IT...
...YOU SCORED A POINT OFF MR. YOSHIDA, DIDN'T YOU?
SCORED A POINT? WELL...
ALL I DID WAS TELL HIM WHAT HE'D BEEN TEACHING...
IN THE PERFECT QUEEN'S ENGLISH OF A YOUNG MAN WHO'S LIVED IN ENGLAND?
THAT IS SURELY SCORING A POINT, DON'T YOU THINK?
...MY APOLOGIES.

YOU CERTAINLY ARE A MYSTERIOUS BOY.
YOU APOLOGIZE TO ME SO EASILY LIKE THAT.
.. BUT YOU ALSO SHOW A STRENGTH THAT REFUSES TO BOW...
...
IT'S BEEN FOUR YEARS SINCE SOMEONE GOT FULL MARKS IN EVERY SUBJECT ON THE ENTRANCE EXAM
THE SCHOOL CAN'T HELP BUT PAY ATTENTION TO YOU
THAT MAY MAKE YOU FEEL UNCOMFORTABLE AT TIMES, BUT TRY NOT TO WORRY ABOUT IT, ALL RIGHT?
THERE WAS SOMEONE WHO DID IT FOUR YEARS AGO?
YES. HE WAS ALSO A UNIQUE STUDENT.
WHATEVER HE DID, HE MADE IT LOOK FLAWLESS.
HE WENT AFTER EVERYTHING WITH PASSION AND HE WAS PRACTICALLY EATEN UP WITH SELF-CONFIDENCE.
HE WAS AN OLYMPIC-LEVEL FENCER AND HE PLAYED THE VIOLIN AS WELL AS A PRO.
HE WAS WELL-ROUNDED, A RENAISSANCE MAN, AND NO MATTER WHAT HE DID, IT WAS PERFECT.

I THINK THAT PEOPLE FIND YOU DIFFICULT TO APPROACH.
COULD YOU TRY JUST A BIT TO OPEN YOUR HEART TO YOUR CLASS-MATES?
HEY, TAKATO-KUN.
....
MORE OR LESS THE OPPOSITE OF YOU, I BELIEVE.
...I WOULD...
IF I COULD...
LIKE, FOR EXAMPLE, MOZART!
THANK YOU VERY MUCH, MS. HIMENO...
IT'S JUST...
WHY NOT TRY TO PLAY SOME MORE LIVELY SONGS?

...MOZART WAS A VERY LONELY MAN, AS WELL.
CLICK
HE CERTAINLY IS A TOUGH NUT TO CRACK!
PLINK

IT'S BEEN A LITTLE OVER A MONTH SINCE WE'VE JOINED THIS SCHOOL ...SO!
YOU KNOW WHO I AM, RIGHT? WE'RE CLASS-MATES, YOU KNOW.
WAIT A SEC, TAKATO!
!
SO, HEY, THE KID WHO GOT IN WITH FULL MARKS ON ALL THE TESTS FOR THE FIRST TIME IN FOUR YEARS THIS YEAR, THAT WAS YOU, RIGHT?
....
AND THEN YOU DECLINED THE OFFER TO INTRODUCE YOURSELF AT THE ENTRANCE CEREMONY, RIGHT?
THAT'S PRETTY COOL, Y'KNOW!
I DO, THAT'S WHY I WAITED FOR YOU!
YOU'RE JUNPEI KIRI-SHIMA, AREN'T YOU? DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY TO ME?
SHUOH HIGH SCHOOL FRESHMAN
JUNPEI KIRISHIMA (AGE 15)
I WANTED TO ASK YOU SOME-THING.
U... UH... WELL....
WHAT WAS IT YOU WANTED TO SAY?
....
...AND?

SO, TODAY WHEN MR. YOSHIDA GOT MAD AT YOU IN ENGLISH CLASS...
...YOU WERE LOOKING OUT THE WINDOW AT SOMETHING, WEREN'T YOU?
IT WASN'T ANYTHING TO WRITE HOME ABOUT.
AH... DID I STEP IN IT OR SOMETHING?
THAT WAS ALL YOU WANTED TO SAY?
UH, NO! I MEAN, NOT REALLY.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE SO COLD ABOUT IT, YOU KNOW...
UMMMM... WELL... AH.... OH, RIGHT!!
UM, HEY, TAKATO!
YOU GOT A GIRL-FRIEND OR ANY-THING?
....HUH?

I'M NOT REALLY INTERESTED IN THAT.
AH!! WHAT A WASTE!! WHAT A SAD WASTE!! YOU'LL BE HAUNTED BY IT!!
WELL, YOU'RE LIKE THIS GREAT ATHLETE AND SCHOLAR AND YOU CAN PLAY THE PIANO, TOO...
AND YOU'RE A KID WHO LIVED IN ENGLAND, THAT'S JUST A RECIPE FOR POPULARITY!!
WOAH, YOU SMILED, TAKATO!
THAT'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE EVER SEEN YOU SMILE.
HEH.
THAT'S TERRIBLE... THAT CAN'T BE TRUE.
IT'S TRUE! YOU DON'T SMILE, YOU DON'T MAKE FRIENDS, YOU DON'T REALLY SEEM INTERESTED IN ANYTHING, BUT YOU CAN DO IT ALL.
IT'S LIKE THERE'S NO ONE IN THE WORLD IT'D BE HARDER TO MAKE FRIENDS WITH, OR SOMETHING!!
OH, YOU SMILED AGAIN.
YOU'RE A PRETTY BLUNT GUY....
THAT ONE WAS MORE OF A BITTER SMILE.

C'MON, JUST FOLLOW ME.
GO? WHERE?
HEY, LET'S GO, TAKATO.
A BITTER SMILE'S STILL A SMILE, SO IT'S FINE.
GRIN
IT'S KIRI-SHIMA!
I BROUGHT YOICHI TAKATO ALONG.
IT'S HERE!

HUH?
TAKATO-KUN!
FLASH
HEY...
WELCOME TO THE INVISIBLE STUDENTS' CLUB!

YEP!
MAGIC ?
HMMM, CAN YOU CALL THIS MAGIC? SEMPAI!!
....
ガラ
TIMP
WEL-COME! ♥
THIS IS THE SHUOH HIGH MAGIC CLUB!
NICE TO MEET YOU!
GRIP
!
SO ARE YOU THE GUY THEY SAY DID IT AFTER FOUR YEARS?

I'M RYOUSUKE KATAKURA, THE PRESIDENT OF MAGIC CLUB.
I HEARD ALL ABOUT YOU FROM KIRI-SHIMA.
WELL, I MEAN I JUST JOINED MAGIC CLUB, BUT...
...EVERYONE WAS SUPER INTERESTED TO HEAR ABOUT YOU, TAKATO!
SHUOH HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR, MAGIC CLUB PRESIDENT
RYOUSUKE KATAKURA (AGE 17)
BUT JUST HANGING STUFF UP BY A STRING AND CALLING IT MAGIC...
...ISN'T THAT A LITTLE BORING?
HUNG BY A STRING?
SHFF
SHUOH HIGH SCHOOL JUNIOR, MAGIC CLUB MEMBER
TSUBAKI FUJIEDA (AGE 16)

SHFF
EVEN THIS?
SHFF

GETTING FOOLED IS ALSO A VERY IMPORTANT ROLE, KIRI-SHIMA-KUN.
THERE ARE PEOPLE LIKE YOU CALLED "MARKS" IN MAGIC.

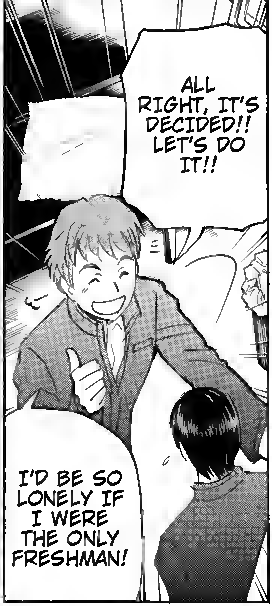
....
THERE'S NO STRING ...?
WHAT ?!

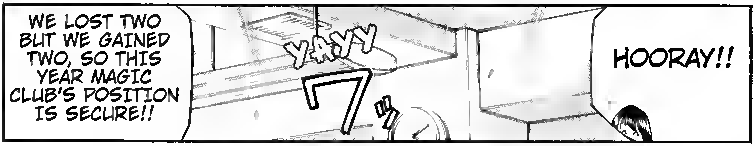
BUT I WAS LOOKING REALLY HARD WHEN THE RING PASSED OVER THE CUP...
AH! THERE'S A GAP IN THE RING!
THAT'S A PSYCHO-LOGICAL TRICK
THE STRING ISN'T HUNG FROM THE TOP,
IT'S PIERCED THROUGH THE SIDE.
IF THE RING DISTURBS THE STRING EVEN A LITTLE BIT, THE MOVEMENT GIVES IT AWAY.
IT'S NOT AN EASY TASK TO DO.
...THE GAP CAN PASS OVER THE STRING.
IF YOU CHANGE THE HAND THAT HOLDS THE RING QUICKLY ENOUGH...

OH, STOP IT WITH THAT "QUEEN" TALK, KATAKURA-SEMPAI!
...IS OUR VERY OWN QUEEN FUJIEDA!
THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN DO THAT TRICK WITH SUCH SPEED AND GRACE...
!
REALLY?
....NO.
I... I SEE NOW.
DID YOU FIGURE IT OUT?
SORRY...
YOU REALLY DID FIGURE IT OUT, DIDN'T YOU?
YOU DIDN'T SEEM REAL SUR-PRISED...
...AND YOUR EYES WERE ALWAYS FOLLOWING, NOT THE CUP, BUT THE SILVER RING.

I TOLD YOU TO CUT IT OUT WITH THAT QUEEN STUFF, KUROE-KUN!
KACHIK
OH HOH, THE QUEEN'S TAKEN A LIKING TO YOU!
WHY APOLOGIZE? YOU'RE A WEIRD KID.
BUT AN INTERESTING ONE.
WH-MS. HIMENO?!
CLICK
WELL, IT LOOKS LIKE EVERYONE'S HERE, SO WHY DON'T WE ALL INTRODUCE OURSELVES
TO THE NEW MEMBER, OF COURSE!
PLEASE JOIN OUR CLUB!
MR. FULL MARKS GENIUS?
....
I'M THE ADVISOR OF MAGIC CLUB.
I'D BE REALLY PLEASED IF YOU DECIDED TO JOIN, TAKATO-KUN!

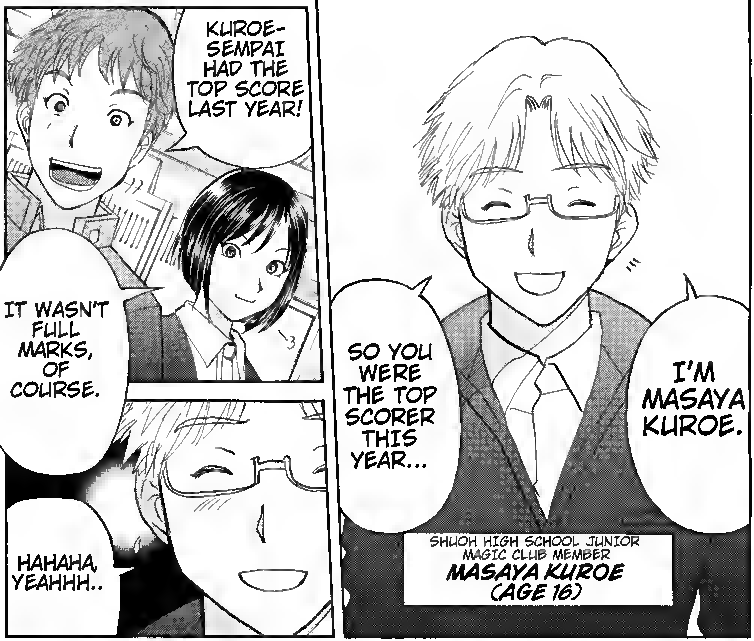
...WELL.
ALL RIGHT.


ALL RIGHT, IT'S DECIDED!! LET'S DO IT!!
I'D BE SO LONELY IF I WERE THE ONLY FRESHMAN!


WE LOST TWO BUT WE GAINED TWO, SO THIS YEAR MAGIC CLUB'S POSITION IS SECURE!!
YAYY
HOORAY!!

LAST YEAR, FUJIEDA WAS THE CHAMPION OF THE ALL JAPAN STUDENT MAGIC COMPETITION.
YEP, THAT'S WHY WE CALL HER THE QUEEN!!
I TOLD YOU TO STOP CALLING ME THAT!!

I'M TSUBAKI FUJIEDA, A JUNIOR!
NICE TO MEET YOU!


I'M MASAYA KUROE.
SO YOU WERE THE TOP SCORER THIS YEAR...
SHUOH HIGH SCHOOL JUNIOR
MAGIC CLUB MEMBER
MASAYA KUROE
(AGE 16)
KUROE-SEMPAI HAD THE TOP SCORE LAST YEAR!
IT WASN'T FULL MARKS, OF COURSE.
HAHAHA, YEAHHH..

I'M RIKU ARAKI-DA!
I'M A SENIOR AND THE VICE PRESI-DENT OF THE CLUB, BUT...
SHUOH HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR,
MAGIC CLUB VICE PRESIDENT
RIKU ARAKIDA
(AGE 17)
I'M THE WORST OF THE WHOLE CLUB WHEN IT COMES TO SKILLS AT MAGIC AH HA
AH, THERE IT IS, ARAKI-DA'S AH HA!!
BUT NOW THAT WE HAVE TWO NEW MEMBERS, I'M UP TO BEING THE THIRD WORST MAGICIAN!
WELL, YOU DON'T KNOW, THESE TWO MIGHT HAVE SOME PRETTY GOOD MAGIC SKILLS

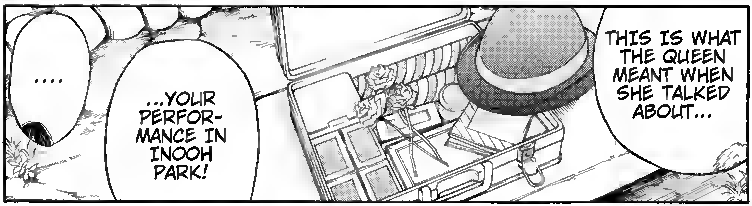
REALLY, YOU DO MAGIC?
MORE OR LESS.
WELL... I'VE DONE A BIT.
WHAT ABOUT YOU, TAKATO?
WELL, I'VE BEEN INTERESTED FOR A WHILE BUT I'VE REALLY NEVER DONE MAGIC BEFORE.
HM...?
IT'S MORE THAN A BIT, ISN'T IT?
AHH! LET ME EXPLAIN!
BY THE WAY, WHAT, SPECIFICALLY, DOES THE MAGIC CLUB DO?
HM? I JUST HAD A FEELING, THAT'S ALL!!
WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN, FUJIEDA?

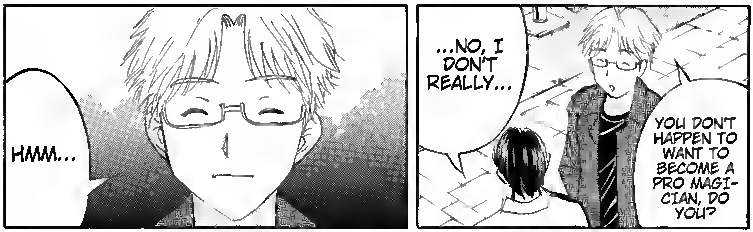
FIRST, WE DO A MAGIC SHOW DURING THE MAY FESTIVAL.
RIGHT NOW, WE'RE HAVING PRACTICE ABOUT THREE TIMES A WEEK TO PREPARE FOR THAT.
THEN WE HAVE A TRAINING CAMP TO PREPARE FOR THE STUDENT MAGIC COMPETITION, WHICH COMES THREE MONTHS LATER
THAT'S SCHEDULED TOWARD THE END OF JULY.
五月祭
WAIT, IT'S MAY RIGHT NOW!
IT IS, AND EVERYONE HAS TO PREPARE A TRICK AND DO IT ON STAGE. THAT INCLUDES FRESHMEN.
YEESH! REALLY? I GOTTA HURRY UP AND THINK OF A TRICK AND PRACTICE IT!
!!
HEY, HEY TAKATO-KUN!
I SAW YOUR PER-FORMANCE IN INOOH PARK.

...
AND THIS WILL BE MY LAST TRICK OF THE DAY.
ALL RIGHT?
I'LL POUR MILK INTO THIS HAT.
OH NO, YOU'LL GET IT DIRTY!!
FWIP
AND NOW, TURN IT OVER...

TURN IT OVER ONCE MORE, AND...
FWIP
3
POP
THE MILK TURNED INTO MILK-WHITE ROSES!!
WOW !!
WOOSH
NOW IT'S WHITE DOVES!!
AWE-SOME !!
WOWWW !!
!
CLAP CLAP
CLAP CLAP
OKAY, BYE MAGIC GUY!
ALL RIGHT, THAT'S IT FOR TODAY!!
YOU SHOULD GET HOME BEFORE IT GETS DARK.

KUROE-SEMPAI...
VERY WELL DONE!
YOU'RE VERY SKILLED, AREN'T YOU?


....
...YOUR PERFOR-MANCE IN INOOH PARK!
THIS IS WHAT THE QUEEN MEANT WHEN SHE TALKED ABOUT...


HMM...
...NO, I DON'T REALLY...
YOU DON'T HAPPEN TO WANT TO BECOME A PRO MAGI-CIAN, DO YOU?

I DON'T WANT IT TO BECOME DIFFICULT TO COME HERE...
TNK
PLEASE DON'T TELL ANYONE ELSE ABOUT THIS.
HM?
AT LEAST, I DON'T PLAN ON TELLING ANYONE.
I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO THE NEXT MAGIC COMPETITION!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT!
...AH!
LATER, TAKATO!
THANK YOU VERY MUCH, KUROE-SEMPAI.
WELL, IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME.

HMPH. YOICHI TAKATO...?
SIMMER...
I WISH HE'D JUST DIE.

Murmur
Ding dong
Bing bong
H-KIRI-SHIMA!
LET'S GO, TAKATO!
I WON'T LET YOU RUN AWAY!
BECAUSE YOU'RE ALREADY A PART OF MAGIC CLUB NOW!
I DIDN'T JOIN MAGIC CLUB BECAUSE I WANTED TO, BUT...
I GET IT!
SO JUST LET MY HAND GO...

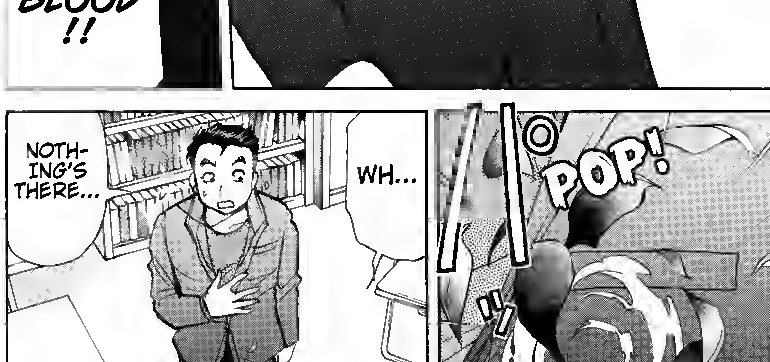
TAKKA-TAKKA-TAKKA
カタカタカタ
FWA...
...THE STRONG PERSONALITIES OF THE MEMBERS OF THE MAGIC CLUB...
...OFFERED ME SOMETHING I'D NOT ONCE HAD BEFORE IN MY LIFE: A PLACE TO BELONG.
OOH!
THE PRACTITIONER OF PSYCHIC MAGIC, PRESIDENT RYOUSUKE KATAKURA.
FLUTTER FLUTTER
WOW! JUST WHAT I'D EXPECT FROM SHUOH'S VERY OWN DAVID COPPERFIELD!
THE CARD MAGICIAN, MASAYA KUROE.

OHMM ..
BOB
THE COMICAL MAGICIAN, RIKU ARAKIDA.
HM?
AHAHAHA
FWIP
AND THE SLEIGHT OF HAND MAGICIAN, TSUBAKI FUJIEDA.
THE CUP AND BALL TRICK THAT SHE SHOWED ME, IN WHICH THE CUPS WERE SEE-THROUGH...
...IT EVEN SHOCKED ME TO BEHOLD.
SHE'S AMAZING.

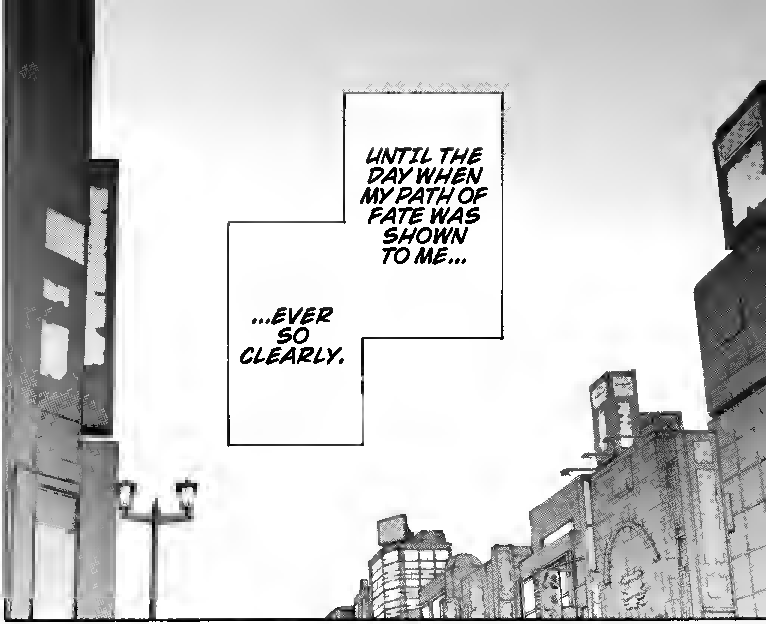
HEY, KIRISHIMA! LET'S SEE SOMETHING FROM THE FRESHMEN!
AH, SURE! WELL, THEN...
ALL THE UPPER-CLASSMEN ARE SO GREAT...
...YEAH.
TA DA!
TAKATO-KUN! YOU SHOULD TRY SOMETHING OUT FOR US, TOO.
...ALL RIGHT.
YOU NEED SOME MORE PRACTICE!
S... SORRY.
OHH! THAT'S THE "ZOMBIE BALL"!
HUHH, NOT BAD.
ROLL
AH!

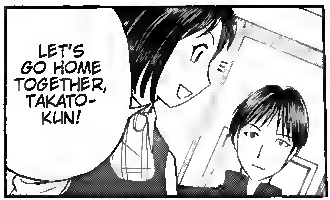
SHF
POP
OH...
AHEM.
SHOOP
?!
TUK

SHWPP
WAH!! IT'S BLOOD !!
WH...
?!

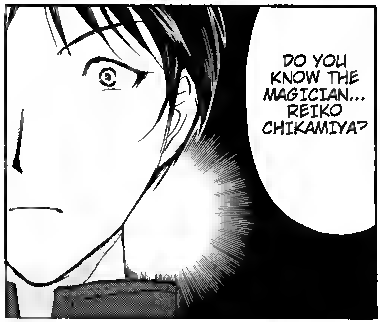

NOTH-ING'S THERE...
WH...
POP!

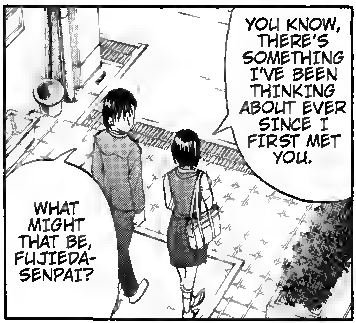
COME, COME, EVERY-ONE!
MS. HIMENO!
HUH?
H-HEY... THAT'S OVER-DOING IT, TAKATO!
....
IF YOU KEEP THAT UP, PEOPLE WILL LIKELY GET VERY EXCITED DURING THE MAY FESTIVAL!
THE MATCHUP BETWEEN BLOOD AND A ROSE IS KIND OF HORROR-ESQUE AND SOMEWHAT THRILLING!
YES...
JUST HAVING A PLACE TO BELONG, IF ONLY A SMALL ONE, WAS SOMETHING I REALLY TREASURED.
THE WAY THE DAYS PASSED WASN'T TOO BAD.


UNTIL THE DAY WHEN MY PATH OF FATE WAS SHOWN TO ME...
...EVER SO CLEARLY.


LET'S GO HOME TOGETHER, TAKATO-KUN!

WE'VE FINISHED MOST OF OUR PREPARATIONS FOR THE MAY FESTIVAL.
AND FINALLY, TOMORROW IS THE KICKOFF NIGHT.


DO YOU KNOW THE MAGICIAN... REIKO CHIKAMIYA?


YOU KNOW, THERE'S SOMETHING I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT EVER SINCE I FIRST MET YOU.
WHAT MIGHT THAT BE, FUJIEDA-SENPAI?

YOU'RE A LOT LIKE HER, TOO.
HM?
I'M A REALLY BIG FAN OF HERS, SO THAT'S WHY...
....
YOU KNOW, I GET THIS SENSE YOU REALLY RESEMBLE THAT GENIUS MAGICIAN.
I THOUGHT SO!
UH... WELL...
I THINK YOU ARE MUCH LIKE...
...THE GENIUS MAGICIAN, REIKO CHIKA-MIYA.

THANK YOU!
MY GOAL IS TO BE JUST LIKE HER...
...SO I'M REALLY HAPPY!
....
OH? MY PASS CASE IS MISS-ING...
AW, DID I FORGET IT IN THE CLUB ROOM...?
LET'S GO BACK AND LOOK FOR IT TOGETHER, THEN?
IT'S ALL RIGHT.
YOU FRESHMEN ALL HAVE TO COME IN EARLY TO PREPARE FOR THE FESTIVAL TOMORROW, DON'T YOU?
YOU GO ON AHEAD!

BRRRMMM
BRRROOO
CLCK
HMMM... WHERE DID I PUT IT...?
IF I DROPPED IT, IT'LL PROBABLY BE AROUND HE-
AH!
THERE IT IS!!

OH GOOD !!

TWANG
FOOSH

GHK!
TNG
W...
TNG
TNG
WHY...?
CLATTER
CRASH
CLATTER
FWUMP

I DID IT...
HAA
HAA
HAA
I GOT IT DONE !!
NOW, I BETTER GET THE PREPARA-TIONS READY FOR THE SHOW!
HEH HEH HEH
A BLOOD-CURDL-ING...
...TERRIFY-ING HORROR MAGIC SHOW!
ゴオオオオ
DOOOOOOOOMMMM

From Tsubaki Fujieda
Sub: Invitation to a late-night Magic Horror Show
From: MIKAMIKO
Sub: Ultimate
FROM FUJIEDA-SEMPAI...?
"INVITATION TO A LATE-NIGHT MAGIC HORROR SHOW"?

From: Tsubaki Fuj

To. Yoichi Takato

Invitation to a late-night Magic Horror show

To the members of the Shuoh High Magic Club

Tonight at midnight, on the first floor of the old wooden school building in the biology storage room, the Ultimate Magic Horror show will unfold

I will secretly open the west side gate of the school, and will be waiting there for you Don't miss seeing this once-in-a-lifetime death magic

-The Reaper Magician

-The Reaper Magician

REAPER...
...MAGICIAN?
11:30
11:30... A HALF HOUR LEFT.
JUST BARELY ENOUGH TIME...!

SMAAASH
AGRW
IT'S 11:30!
DON'T YOU LIE TO ME!!
SCHOOL THERE'S SOME PREPARATION I HAVE TO DO FOR MY CLUB.
TTTTT
HEY, YOICHI! WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING AT THIS TIME OF NIGHT?!
TWITCH
WHY YOU-
WHAT'S THAT GLARE FOR?!
KLICK
SORRY. I'M IN A HURRY, SO...
KACHK
Whew
FOR THE LOVE OF...

EVERY DAY THAT GOES BY HE STARTS TO LOOK MORE AND MORE LIKE...
GULP
...DOESN'T RESEMBLE YOU AT ALL, REIKO... EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE HIS MOM.
THAT DAMN YOICHI...
DOOK DOOK
BAM
...THAT DEMON!!
THE EMAIL SAID THAT THE WEST SIDE GATE WOULD BE OPEN...
...!
RATTLE
CREEAK
IT IS OPEN...

THERE ARE SIGNS OF LOCK-PICKING...
WHO'S THERE?
!!
FLASH

I ALSO GOT AN EMAIL FROM FUJIEDA-SAN.
THOUGH I THINK EVEN FOR HER, THIS STUNT'S A BIT MUCH.
T-TAKATO-KUN?! YOU SCARED ME!
MS. HIMENO!
WOAH, TAKATO AND EVEN MS. HIMENO.
KIRI-SHIMA! DID SHE EVEN CALL YOU OUT HERE?
Y, YEAH... I GUESS FUJIEDA-SEMPAI SAID THAT SHE WAS GONNA PUT ON A MAGIC HORROR SHOW IN HER EMAIL SO I CAME.
MAN, SURE SHE'S THE QUEEN BUT THIS IS BEYOND THE PALE!!
....
THREE MINUTES TO MID-NIGHT.
LET'S GET TO THE BIOLOGY STORAGE ROOM!

KATA-KURA-SEMPAI! ARAKIDA-SEMPAI!
TAKATO AND KIRI-SHIMA? MS. HIMENO, TOO?!
THERE'S SOMEONE IN FRONT OF THE BIOLOGY ROOM...?!
DID EVERYBODY GET CALLED OUT BY THAT "REAPER MAGICIAN...?"
DANG, FUJIEDA... GOING SO FAR AS TO CALL OUT A TEACHER...
MAN, WHAT IS SHE EVEN THINKING?
BUT EVEN FOR HER CALLING PEOPLE OUT THIS LATE AT NIGHT IS STRANGE ISN'T IT?
I MET FUJIEDA-SEMPAI AT THE BUS STATION AS WE WERE GOING HOME.
BUT AFTER THAT, SHE WENT BACK FOR HER PASS CASE. SHE FORGOT IT IN THE CLUB ROOM.
SO SHE MUST HAVE LOST HER CELL PHONE AT THE TIME.
AND THEN SOMEONE MAY HAVE PICKED IT UP AND SENT US ALL THIS EMAIL...

KUROE!
LOOKS LIKE EVERYONE'S HERE, DOES THAT MEAN I'M THE LAST TO ARRIVE?
THIS ISN'T SOME TRICK OF YOURS, IS IT KUROE?
OF COURSE NOT, PRESI-DENT.
LOOK, I GOT THE SAME EMAIL ON MY PHONE AS WE-
VM VM VM
?!
?!
OH, I GOT AN EMAIL!
BRMMM
VM VM VM
BZZZ BZZZZ
ME TOO!
I DID TOO!
DING A-LING
CHINGALING

"THE SHOW HAS START-ED."
"YOU MAY SEE IT FROM THE KEYHOLE OF THE DOOR?"
OOOH! WHERE, WHERE?
AAAAAAA UUUGH!!
WH-WHAT'S THE MATTER KIRI-SHIMA?!
FU... FUJI-EDA.... FUJI-EDA-SEM-PAI'S...
WHAT'S SHE-
FUJI-EDA'S THERE?!
INSIDE THAT LITTLE KEY-HOLE...
...IN THE OLD WOODEN BIOLOGY STORAGE ROOM...

...WAS TSUBAKI FUJIEDA'S SEVERED HEAD.

RESTING ON TOP OF THAT DESK IN THAT ROOM, AS NATURALLY AS A FLOWER VASE...
...WAS A PIECE OF ART THAT WAS CREATED BY SNUFFING A LIFE.
THAT WAS CLEAR JUST FROM A SINGLE LOOK.
WH...
I... IT CAN'T BE.
EEEEEK!
N... NO...!!
F-FUJIEDA-SAN?!

WE... WE HAVE TO CALL THE COPS...!
WAIT! WE DON'T KNOW THAT THIS IS REALLY A SEVERED HEAD YET.
KNOCK KNOCK
KNOCK KNOCK
IT'S LOCKED FROM THE INSIDE ...!!
DAMN, IT WON'T OPEN!
IT'D BE A BIG PROBLEM IF WE CALLED THE COPS AND IT TURNED OUT THE WHOLE THING WAS A MAGIC TRICK!
THERE'S A FAMOUS MAGIC TRICK CALLED THE SPHINX THAT USES MIRRORS, RIGHT?
NO... THAT WAS ACTUAL-LY...
MAGIC ...?
I'LL GO GET IT!
AH... OF COURSE. LET'S FIRST GET THE KEY FROM CAMPUS SECURITY.

I GOT THE KEY!
ALL RIGHT, I'M OPENING IT...!
KA-CHUNK
WAH!!
MOVE, PLEASE!!
TRIP
HEY, FUJI-EDA!!
BAM
THAT'S ENOUGH OF TH...!!
...HUH?
WHAT'S THE MATTER KUROE-KUN?

THE HEAD IS...
...GONE?
IT... IT'S TRUE.
ALL THAT'S LEFT IS THIS PAPER COVERED WITH GORE.

BUT NO ONE'S IN THE ROOM...?!
THAT'S RIDICU-LOUS!!
THEN, IT REALLY WAS MAGIC...?
P... PRESIDENT KATAKURA, THERE'S REALLY NO SEVERED HEAD IN THERE RIGHT?
SHIVER SHIVER
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, ARAKIDA? GET IN HERE!!
WHAT THE HECK! I THOUGHT IT WAS GONNA BE A LOCKED ROOM MURDER AND I KINDA GOT MY HOPES UP!!
WHAT IS WRONG WITH YOU?!
....
SOME-THING WRONG WITH THE GORE, TAKATO?
SPLOOP!
....
...THIS ISN'T GORE...
THIS IS REAL BLOOD.

I BET FUJIEDA-SEMPAI WENT OUT THAT WINDOW LAUGHING AFTER SHE SAW WHAT IDIOTS SHE MADE US LOOK LIKE.
DAMN THAT CRUEL QUEEN!
SOMEONE MUST HAVE KILLED ONE OF THE EXPERIMENTAL MICE THEY KEEP HERE AND USED THAT, RIGHT?
WELL, IT IS A BIOLOGY SUPPLY ROOM...
THE WINDOW IN THIS ROOM USES A SCREW TYPE LOCK, AND IT COULDN'T BE LOCKED FROM THE OUTSIDE.
IT'S PRETTY DIFFICULT TO USE THAT OLD TYPE OF LOCK IN A TRICK LIKE THAT.
I DON'T THINK SHE'S THE TYPE OF PERSON TO DO SOMETHING SO AWFUL, THOUGH...
SIDES
SO YOU'RE SAYING THIS BIOLOGY STORAGE ROOM REALLY IS A LOCKED ROOM?
IT CERTAINLY SEEMS THAT WAY...

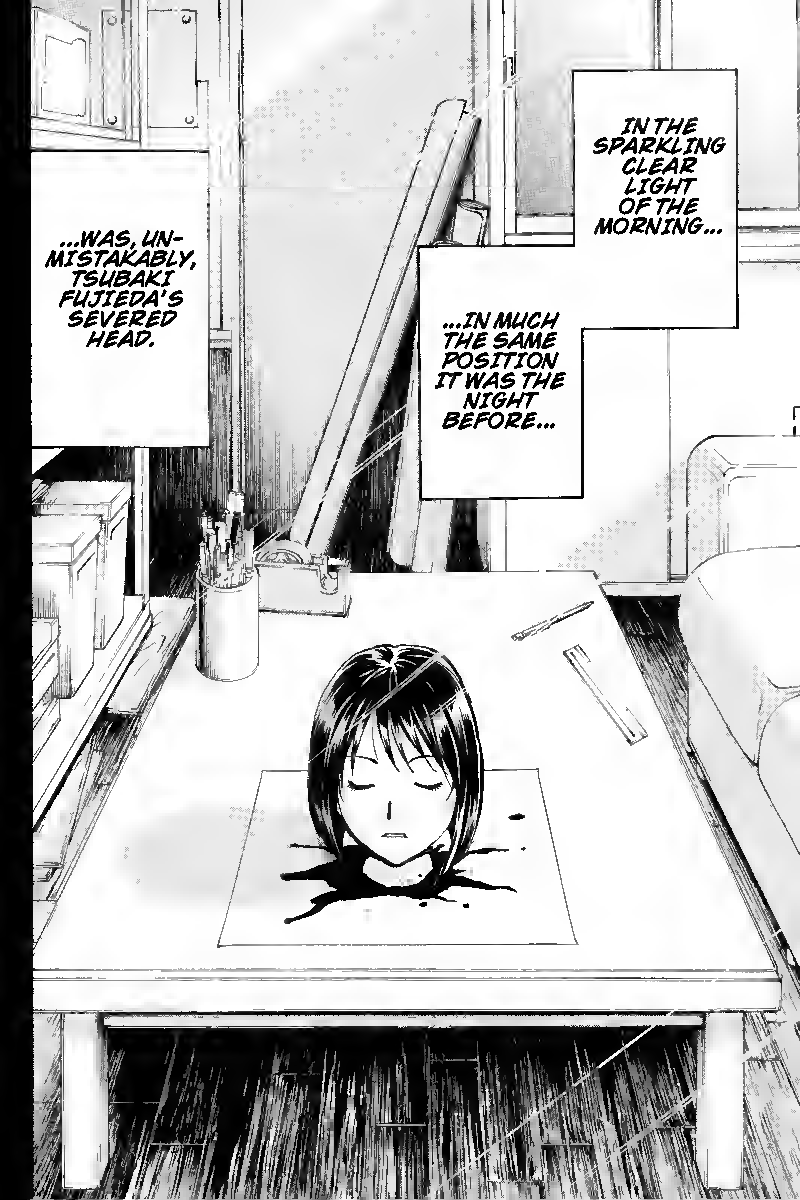
From: Tsubaki Fujieda
To: Ryousuke Katakura
To the Shuoh High Magic Club
With that, tonight's Magical Horror show comes to a close.
I'll see you all again tomorrow.
-The Reaper Magician
TCH. SAYS IT'S THE END OF THE SHOW.
ANO-THER EMAIL!
ME TOO.
HOW DID SHE HIDE HERSELF, I WONDER?
THIS IS A PERFECTLY EXECUTED LOCKED ROOM.
BUT IT WAS A PRETTY AMAZING TRICK.
HOW DISTUR-BING!
WE CAN FINALLY GO HOME
THOUGH I DON'T KNOW IF IT'S GONNA BE THAT EASY TO GET IT OUT OF THE QUEEN
SHE'LL TELL US THE TRICK TOMOR-ROW.
FUJI-EDA-SAN REALLY IS AMAZING.
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO GET OUT IN THAT TIME.
IT TOOK ONLY ABOUT FIVE MINUTES TO GO GET THE KEY AND COME BACK...

....
WELL EVERY-ONE BETTER GET HOME!
TOMOR-ROW IS THE DAY BEFORE THE FESTI-VAL
WE'LL ALL BE REALLY BUSY IN THE MORNING.
KACHK
...MAGIC...?
BUT WAS IT REALLY...?

HEH
くるっ。
TURN
Twe
tweet
ピーィィィ
chirp
チュン
chirp
チュン

THERE'S A PATROL CAR IN FRONT OF THE SCHOOL ?!
TIKK
...?
Murmur Murmur
KIRI-SHIMA, WHAT'S GOING ON?
AH! T-TAKATO !!
SOME-THING REALLY AWFUL HAP-PENED.
IN THAT BIOLOGY STORAGE ROOM THAT WE WERE CALLED OUT TO YESTER-DAY...

...!
生物準備室
WHAT LAST NIGHT SEEMED TO BE NAUGHT BUT AN ILLUSION...
...REVEALED ITSELF ONCE AGAIN TO BE ALL TOO REAL.


IN THE SPARKLING CLEAR LIGHT OF THE MORNING...
...IN MUCH THE SAME POSITION IT WAS THE NIGHT BEFORE...
...WAS, UNMISTAKABLY, TSUBAKI FUJIEDA'S SEVERED HEAD.

KINDAICHI CASE FILES: TAKATO'S SIDE
I'M GONDO, I'LL BE HEADING THIS INVESTIGATION.
WHO WAS THE FIRST WITNESS ON SCENE?
SIR! IT WAS THE HEAD OF THE BIOLOGY DEPARTMENT.
Translated by Abby Lehrke
Adaptation by Mika Anami
YKS SERVICES LLC / SKY-JAPAN, Inc.
IT SEEMS HE DISCOVERED THE BODY WHEN HE CAME EARLY TO THE BIOLOGY PREP ROOM TO GET READY FOR THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL.
THERE'S ONE THING THAT BOTHERS ME
SOMETHING THAT BOTHERS YOU? THE HECK ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
LAST NIGHT, THE MEMBERS OF THE MAGIC CLUB, TO WHICH THE VICTIM BELONGED, RECEIVED AN EMAIL FROM THE VICTIM HERSELF CALLING THEM TO THE SCENE OF THE CRIME
AT THAT TIME, THEY APPARENTLY SAW THE VICTIM'S SEVERED HEAD SITTING ON THE LOW TABLE THROUGH THE KEYHOLE.
WHAT THE-?

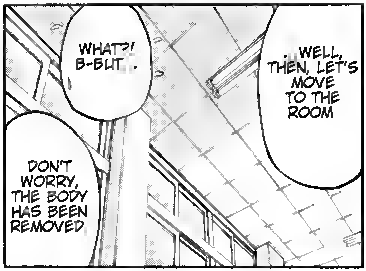
THIS STORY IS FICTIONAL, AND COMPLETELY UNRELATED TO REAL PEOPLE, GROUPS, OR EVENTS

I SEE. SO, IN OTHER WORDS, YOU WERE SENT AN EMAIL SAYING THAT THERE WOULD BE A MAGIC SHOW AT MIDNIGHT LAST NIGHT.
AND IT WAS SENT FROM TSUBAKI FUJIEDA'S OWN PHONE, IS THAT TRUE, MISS HIMENO?
YES. SINCE I'M THE ADVISOR OF THE MAGIC CLUB...
...IF A GROUP OF STUDENTS ARE GETTING TOGETHER IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT, I HAVE TO GO TOO...
ADVISING TEACHER
YUUMI HIMENO
AND WHO WAS THE FIRST TO SEE IT?
AH! TH-THAT WAS ME!
AND THEN WE GOT ANOTHER EMAIL, AND WHEN WE LOOKED THROUGH THE KEYHOLE INTO THE ROOM ACCORDING TO ITS INSTRUCTION...

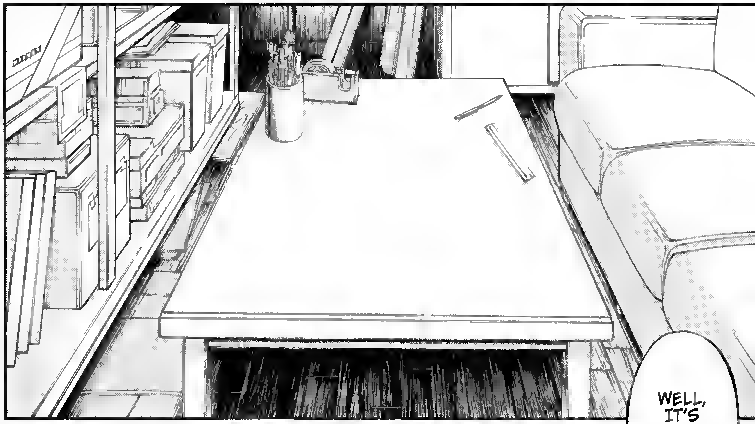
AAAAA AAAAH-UUGH!!
FU... FUJI-EDA... FUJI-EDA-SEMPAI'S...
AND THEN...
I WAS CONVINCED THAT IT WAS MAGIC, SO I PEEKED IN.
SHUOH HIGH FRESHMAN MAGIC CLUB MEMBER
JUNPEI KIRISHIMA (AGE 15)
WELL, ANYBODY'D REACT THAT WAY AFTER SEEING SOMETHING LIKE THAT!
HAHA, KIRI-SHIMA!
RIGHT, RIGHT. HE SCREAMED LIKE A LITTLE GIRL AND FELL DOWN.
heh
YOU'RE THE WEIRD ONE FOR SEEING THAT AND AUTOMATICALLY SAYING THAT IT'S "MAGIC."
KIRI-SHIMA'S RIGHT, KUROE!
SHUOH HIGH SENIOR MAGIC CLUB VICE PRESIDENT
RIKU ARAKIDA (AGE 17)

DISAP-PEARED ?!
YOU MEAN THE SEVERED HEAD?!
BECAUSE IT DISAP-PEARED, SIR.
WHY DIDN'T YOU IMMEDIATELY CONTACT THE POLICE?!
FUJIEDA'S HEAD WAS DEFINITELY THERE WHEN WE LOOKED THROUGH THE KEYHOLE.
IN THE FIVE MINUTES OR SO IT TOOK FOR ME TO BORROW THE KEY FROM CAMPUS SECURITY.
YES...
SHUOH HIGH SENIOR MAGIC CLUB PRESIDENT
RYOSUKE KATAKURA (AGE 17)
LEAVING BEHIND ONLY A SIN-GLE BLOOD-STAINED SHEET OF WHITE PAPER.
BUT THEN IT SUDDENLY DISAP-PEARED.

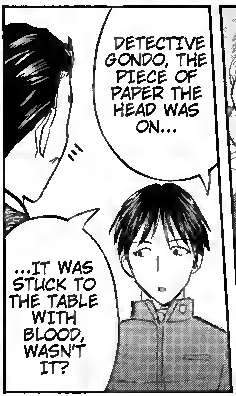
I'M FRESHMAN MAGIC CLUB MEMBER YOICHI TAKATO.
HM... AND YOU ARE?
NO, THAT'S WRONG.
SO THE KILLER GRABBED THE HEAD AND LEFT THROUGH THE WINDOW SOMETIME IN THAT FIVE MINUTE.
AH, I SEE!
..SOME-THING WRONG?
....

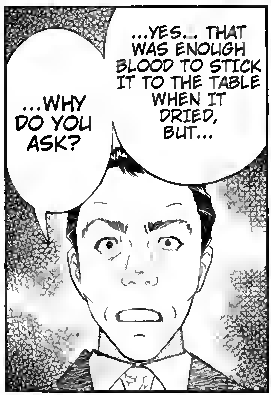

WHAT?! B-BUT...
WELL, THEN, LET'S MOVE TO THE ROOM
DON'T WORRY, THE BODY HAS BEEN REMOVED

NO WHAT MAKES YOU CUT ME OFF AND SAY I'M WRONG, TAKATO-KUN?
WELL, THAT'S SOME-THING I'D RATHER EXPLAIN IN THE ROOM ITSELF


WELL, IT'S CERTAINLY GONE.

AND SO IS THAT BLOOD-STAINED PIECE OF PAPER.


DETECTIVE GONDO, THE PIECE OF PAPER THE HEAD WAS ON...
!!!
...IT WAS STUCK TO THE TABLE WITH BLOOD, WASN'T IT?


...YES... THAT WAS ENOUGH BLOOD TO STICK IT TO THE TABLE WHEN IT DRIED, BUT...
...WHY DO YOU ASK?

JUST...
SHIF
...LOOK OVER HERE, PLEASE.
THIS ROOM'S WINDOWS ARE LOCKED WITH AN OLD-FASHIONED SCREW-TYPE LOCK.
THERE'S NO GAP BETWEEN THEM, SO IT WOULD BE VERY PRACTICALLY DIFFICULT TO LOCK THEM FROM THE OUTSIDE.
THE ONLY OTHER CONNECTION BETWEEN THIS ROOM AND THE OUTDOORS IS THIS VENTILATION FAN.
HOWEVER, AS YOU CAN SEE, THERE'S A WIRE NET IN PLACE TO KEEP IT CLOSED.
....
IT WOULD BE PHYSICALLY IMPOSSIBLE TO GET A HUMAN HEAD, OR INDEED, ANYTHING, THROUGH THERE.
SO...
...WHAT, EXACTLY, ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY?
YOU KNOW WHAT I'M TRYING TO SAY, DON'T YOU, DETEC-TIVE?

THIS IS A LOCKED ROOM MURDER...!
A... LOCKED ROOM...
...MUR-DER...?!
ピク
TWITCH

THE AMOUNT OF TIME BETWEEN WHEN WE FIRST SAW FUJIEDA-SEMPAI'S HEAD...
...AND WHEN WE OPENED THE DOOR WAS AROUND FIVE MINUTES.
FOR THAT TIME, THE FOUR OF US, MINUS PRESIDENT KATAKURA, WERE THERE.
OUR ADVISOR, MISS HIMENO, WAS IN FRONT OF THE DOOR.
INSIDE THE ROOM, THERE'S NO GETTING IN OR OUT OF THE WINDOW, NOR IS THERE ANY SPACE TO HIDE.
YET, IN SPITE OF ALL THAT, THE SEVERED HEAD COMPLETELY DISAPPEARED AS IF IT WAS NOTHING MORE THAN SMOKE AND MIRRORS.
YES, THIS MUST BE IT...
...DEATH MAGIC...!

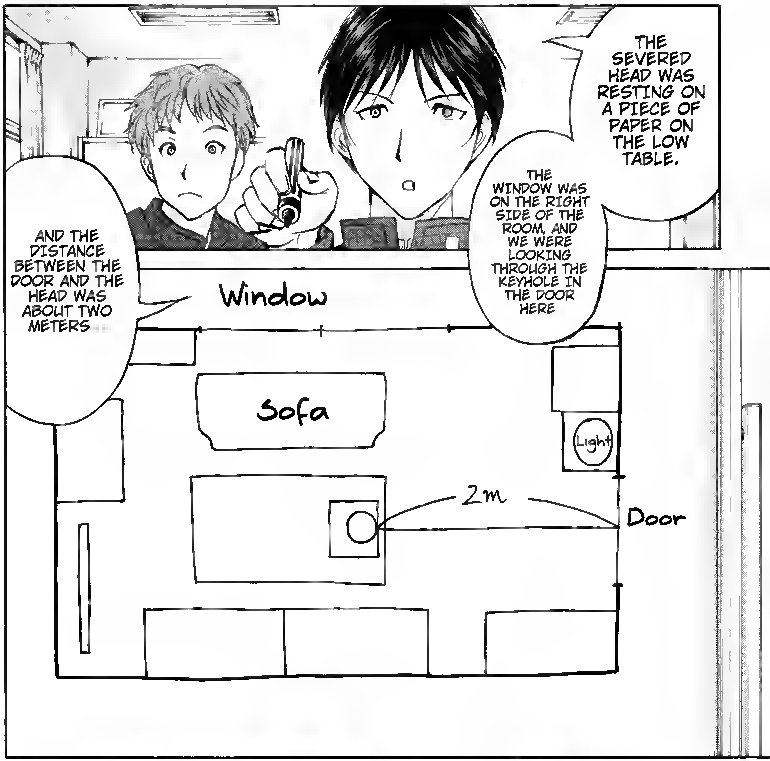
THE DEADLY MAGIC SHOW THAT WAS PRE-PARED...
...WITH DEVILISH INTEN-TIONS, FOR US, ITS AUDI-ENCE,
BY THE PERSON WHO CALLED THEMSELVES "THE REAPER MAGICIAN"...!
T...TA-KATO-KUN...?
THIS GUY'S...
I SEE...
IN THAT CASE, THE MUR-DERER...

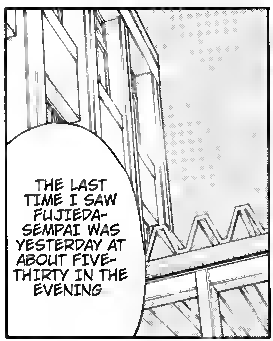
NO, SADLY, I DON'T YET HAVE A SOLID THEORY.
TAKATO-KUN, DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEAS REGARDING WHO THE KILLER MIGHT BE?
...MUST BE A MAGIC-LOVING MADMAN, THEN...!
GASP
...LAST NIGHT, AFTER THE HEAD DISAPPEARED, I CHECKED TO SEE IF THE RED MARK ON THE PAPER WAS ACTUALLY BLOOD OR NOT.
I TRIED WIPING AT IT WITH MY HANDKER-CHIEF.
...THAT WAS BECAUSE...
...WHETHER IT WAS OR WAS NOT STUCK TO THE TABLE, AND ALL...!
YOU SEEMED TO BE VERY INTERESTED IN THE PAPER THE HEAD WAS LEFT ON...
I HAD A FEELING THAT THE PAPER WAS STUCK TO THE TABLE.
BUT I NOTICED THAT THE BLOOD ON TOP OF THE PAPER HAD MOSTLY DRIED.
IT DEFINITELY SMELLED LIKE BLOOD.

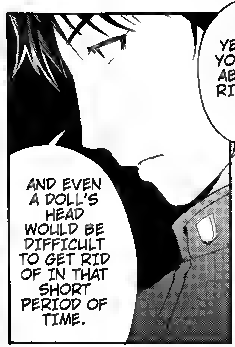
I WAS WONDERING WHY WE WERE TOLD THE SHOW WAS AT MIDNIGHT...
...IF THE BLOOD HAD BEEN THERE LONG ENOUGH TO DRY THAT MUCH?
WHO KNOWS!
I GUESS WE'LL FIND OUT WHEN WE'VE CAUGHT THIS MADMAN MAGICIAN.
AFTER ALL, THE FASTEST WAY TO LEARN MAGIC'S SECRETS...
...IS TO ASK THE PERFORMER THEMSELVES HOW THEY DID IT!!

THAT DETECTIVE DEFINITELY SUSPECTS YOU, TAKATO!
KINDAICHI CASE FILES: TAKATO'S SIDE
PROB-ABLY...
NOT LIKE YOU WEREN'T PART OF THE REASON!
YOU SAID A BUNCH OF REALLY SUSPICIOUS THINGS TO A DETECTIVE, AFTER ALL.
EVEN I WAS FEELING REALLY NERVOUS.
...SORRY, KIRI-SHIMA.
I'LL BE MORE CARE-FUL...!
Translated by Abby Lehrke
Adaptation by Mika Anami
YKS SERVICES LLC / SKY J. A. P. N., Inc.
PLUS, HOW COULD HER HEAD DISAPPEAR IN JUST FIVE MINUTES...?
I MEAN, WE SEARCHED THE WHOLE ROOM BACK THEN, BUT WE DIDN'T FIND ANYTHING AT ALL...
YES, WE DID SEARCH THE SOFA AND THE CUP-BOARDS.
THERE WAS REALLY NOWHERE THE HEAD COULD HAVE BEEN HIDDEN.
.. WHY DON'T WE PUT OUR THOUGHTS IN ORDER?
SHF

THIS STORY IS FICTIONAL, AND COMPLETELY UNRELATED TO REAL PEOPLE, GROUPS, OR EVENTS.


THE SEVERED HEAD WAS RESTING ON A PIECE OF PAPER ON THE LOW TABLE.
THE WINDOW WAS ON THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE ROOM, AND WE WERE LOOKING THROUGH THE KEYHOLE IN THE DOOR HERE
AND THE DISTANCE BETWEEN THE DOOR AND THE HEAD WAS ABOUT TWO METERS...
Window
Sofa
Light
2m
Door

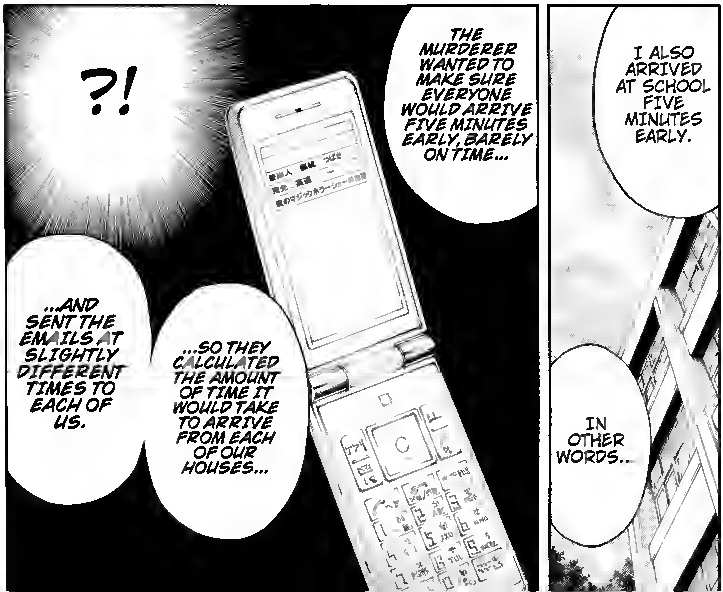

THE LAST TIME I SAW FUJIEDA-SEMPAI WAS YESTERDAY AT ABOUT FIVE-THIRTY IN THE EVENING


AND EVEN A DOLL'S HEAD WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO GET RID OF IN THAT SHORT PERIOD OF TIME.
YES.. YOU'RE ABOUT RIGHT.

HMM... IT WOULD BE TOUGH TO MISTAKE, LIKE, A DOLLS HEAD FOR THE REAL THING AT THAT DISTANCE!

FUJIEDA-SEMPAI WAS KILLED AT.
...WAIT A SEC, THEN..?
THAT'S ABOUT THE TIME THAT THE MURDER OCCURRED
IF, BY CHANCE, THE MURDERER HAD TAKEN HER PASS CASE AND LEFT IT THERE...
SHE'D LEFT IT IN THE CLUB ROOM
SHE WAS GOING BACK ALONE TO RETRIEVE HER PASS CASE
UGH, HOW AWFUL..!
...IT MAKES SENSE THAT SHE WAS ATTACKED AND KILLED JUST AFTER SHE LEFT ME TO RETURN TO THE CLUB ROOM
IF YOU THINK ABOUT THE FACT THAT THE BLOOD ON THE PIECE OF PAPER WAS NEARLY DRY...
WHEN WAS IT THAT YOU RECEIVED IT, KIRISHIMA?
UM, JUST ONE SEC...
WAIT, 11:40? I GOT IT TEN MINUTES LATER.
AND I RECEIVED THE EMAIL AT 11:30 AT NIGHT.
11:30

WHY WERE THE TIMES DIFFER-ENT?
....
MAYBE THE MURDERER SENT THE EMAILS AT SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT TIMES...
WHA?! BUT WHY WOULD THEY?
YOU LIVE CLOSER TO SCHOOL THAN I DO, DON'T YOU?
WELL, YEAH! I LEFT AS SOON AS I SAW THE EMAIL, AND I GOT THERE AT THE SAME TIME EVERYONE ELSE DID, ABOUT FIVE MINUTES EARLY.


I ALSO ARRIVED AT SCHOOL FIVE MINUTES EARLY.
IN OTHER WORDS..
THE MURDERER WANTED TO MAKE SURE EVERYONE WOULD ARRIVE FIVE MINUTES EARLY, BARELY ON TIME...
?!
...SO THEY CALCULATED THE AMOUNT OF TIME IT WOULD TAKE TO ARRIVE FROM EACH OF OUR HOUSES...
...AND SENT THE EMAILS AT SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT TIMES TO EACH OF US.

IF WE'D HAD TIME, WE WOULD HAVE PROBABLY CONTACTED ONE ANOTHER, DON'T YOU THINK?
IF FOR NO OTHER REASON THAN TO MEET UP AND ALL GO TOGETHER
B... BUT WHY WOULD THEY DO SUCH AN ANNOYING THING?!
LIKELY SO THAT WE WOULDN'T HAVE A CHANCE TO THINK ABOUT IT..
OH! I GET IT! THEN THE MURDERER'S...
..THAT WOULD BE THE HEIGHT OF ANNOYANCE, RIGHT?
IF ONE OF US HAD CALLED THE MURDERER WHILE THEY WERE HIDDEN AWAY AT SCHOOL, IN THE MIDDLE OF PREPARING THINGS...
YES, IT DOES.
KIRI-SHIMA.
...THEY'RE... HEY, TAKATO!
DOES THAT MEAN THE MURDERER IS...!

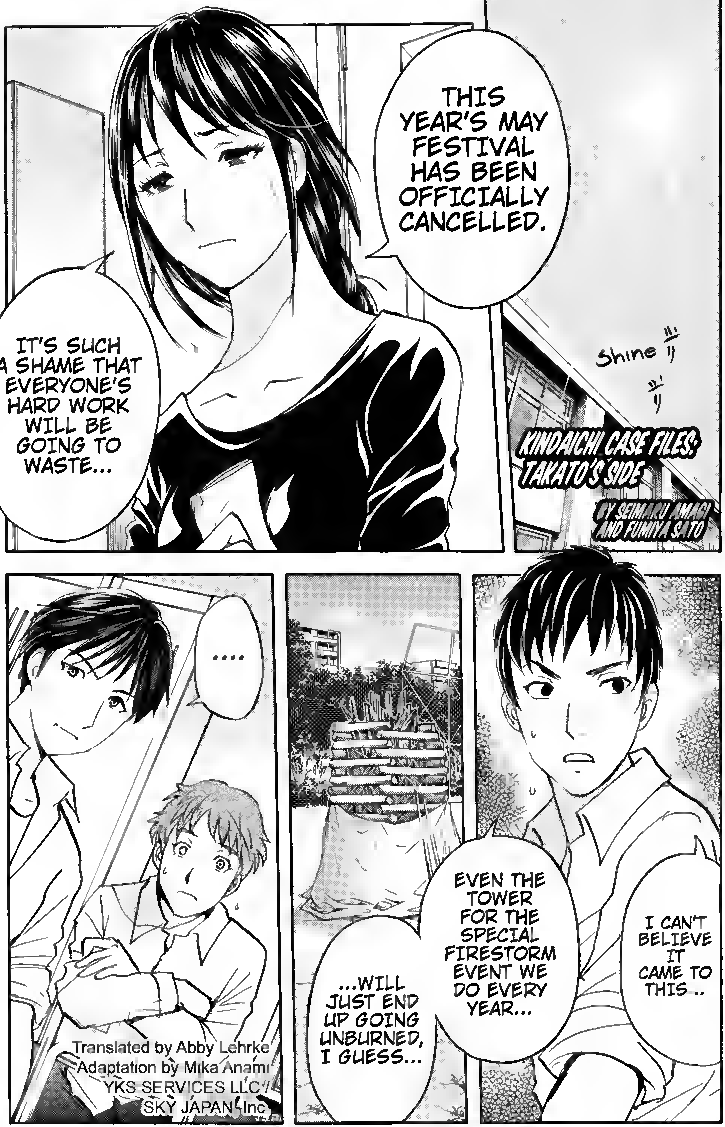
THE MURDERER KNEW EXACTLY HOW MUCH TIME IT WOULD TAKE EACH OF US TO GET FROM OUR SEPARATE HOMES TO THE SCHOOL.
AND THEY SENT THE EMAILS SO THAT EACH OF US WOULD LEAVE AS SOON AS WE GOT THEM.
IN ADDITION, THEY ATTEMPTED TO CONVINCE US THAT THE STRANGE PHENOMENON OF THE HEAD DISAPPEARING WAS A MAGIC TRICK THAT FUJIEDA-SEMPAI HERSELF PLANNED..
AND HERE THEY MADE SURE TO VERIFY THAT WE ALL LEFT WITHOUT CALLING THE POLICE WHICH MEANS...
THAT THE MURDERER, THE REAPER MAGICIAN...
...CAN ONLY BE ONE OF THE SIX MEMBERS OF THE MAGIC CLUB...
...WHO GATHERED HERE LAST NIGHT!
N...
NO WAY!

WH?
THERE IS ONE PERSON WHO WASN'T WITH US AT THAT TIME
I MEAN, DURING THE TIME THE HEAD DISAP-PEARED, WE WERE ALL TOGETHER, WEREN'T WE?
WERE WE?
SO YOU'RE SAYING HE USED THAT FIVE MINUTES TO DO SOME-THING ..?!
NO... I THINK THAT'S UNLIKELY.
AH! PRESI-DENT KATA-KURA!!
YES. HE WAS THE ONE WHO WENT TO GET THE KEY, AND HE WAS APART FROM US FOR ABOUT FIVE MINUTES.
YUP, LOOK HERE.
田中 勇
AHH, HE DID COME. HE WAS RUNNIN' LIKE CRAZY AND BREATHIN' HEAVY TOO
DO YOU HAVE A RECORD OF THAT?
I ACTUALLY VERIFIED WITH CAMPUS SECURITY THAT PRESIDENT KATAKURA CAME TO CHECK OUT THE KEY LAST NIGHT.
WHEN I DID...

I WISH WE'D CALLED THE POLICE RIGHT AWAY BACK THEN
DAMN...! THIS JUST KEEPS GETTING MORE AND MORE CONFUSING!
THE SECURITY OFFICER VERY CLEARLY REMEMBERED HIM, BECAUSE HE OFTEN GOES TO GET THE KEY TO OUR CLUB ROOM AS WELL
IT ABSOLUTELY HAD TO BE PRESIDENT KATAKURA WHO WENT TO GET THE KEYS, IT APPEARS.
JUST WHAT?
NO... I'M SURE THE RESULT WOULD BE THE SAME.
JUST..
YES. THE DISAPPEARING SEVERED HEAD TRICK WAS NOT PLOTTED TO DIVERT SUSPICION OFF THE MURDERER THEMSELVES.
SO TO DO THAT, THEY WOULD LIKELY HAVE LEFT THE WINDOW OPEN, TO LET US ASSUME THAT THE MURDERER RAN OUT THE WINDOW.
SH-SHOW?!
THE "SHOW" WOULD PROBABLY NOT HAVE ENDED SO BEAUTIFULLY, I SUPPOSE.

FROM START TO END, THIS WAS A SHOW.
A SHOW PUT ON BY THE REAPER MAGICIAN THEM-SELVES.
THE FEAR AND SHOCK THAT WE EXPERIENCED SEEING IT WAS SOMETHING THE MAGICIAN LOOKED UPON WITH JOY.
I UNDER-STAND, SOME-HOW...
...WHAT THE MURDERER THOUGHT...
...WHAT THEY FELT....

DID YOU FORGET WHAT THE REAPER MAGICIAN WROTE AT THE END OF THEIR LAST EMAIL?
HUH?
THE ONLY QUESTION IS WILL THIS SHOW END WITH JUST ONE "ACT"?
....
"I'LL SEE YOU ALL AGAIN TOMOR-ROW"
From: Ts
To: Junpe
To the Shuo
With that, tonight's
Horror show comes to a
I'll see you all again tomorrow.
-The Reaper Magician
I ONLY HOPE THIS ISN'T HIS WAY OF GIVING NOTICE... FOR HIS NEXT MURDER.


THIS YEAR'S MAY FESTIVAL HAS BEEN OFFICIALLY CANCELLED.
IT'S SUCH A SHAME THAT EVERYONE'S HARD WORK WILL BE GOING TO WASTE...
Shine
KINDAICHI CASE FILES: TAKATO'S SIDE
BY SEIMARU AMAGI AND FUMIYA SATO
....
EVEN THE TOWER FOR THE SPECIAL FIRESTORM EVENT WE DO EVERY YEAR...
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT CAME TO THIS ..
...WILL JUST END UP GOING UNBURNED, I GUESS...
Translated by Abby Lehrke
Adaptation by Mika Anami
YKS SERVICES LLC /
SKY JAPAN Inc.

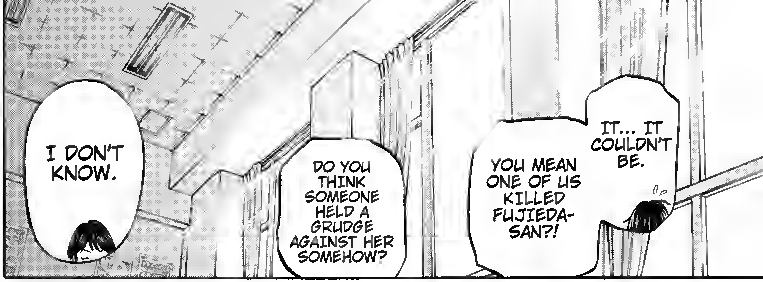
THIS STORY IS FICTIONAL AND COMPLETELY UNRELATED TO REAL PEOPLE, GROUPS, OR EVENTS

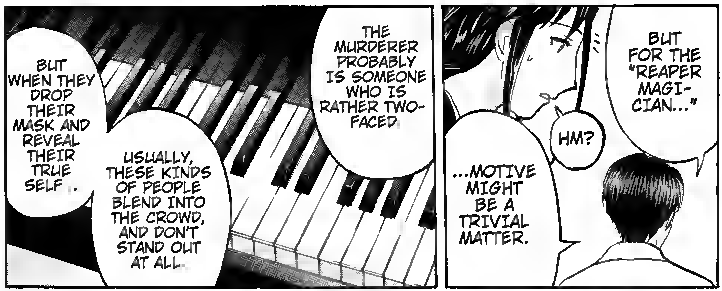
WON'T THE REST OF HER BODY START TO STINK?
HEY, KUROE!
phew
PLUS, IT CERTAINLY HAS GOTTEN HOT LATELY.
IT FEELS LIKE IT'S SUDDENLY SUMMER, DOESN'T IT?
THERE'S NO REASON FOR THAT, EVEN IF YOU DID HATE FUJIEDA!
WHA...
YOU'RE STARTING TO TALK PRETTY INAPPROPRIATELY, YOU KNOW!
AH! MISS HIMENO!
WH...! WHY ARE YOU DRESSED LIKE THAT, ARAKIDA-KUN?
STOP THAT, YOU TWO!
UGH, SO HOT...

....
....
WOOF!
S... SORRY, IT WAS JUST SO HOT, I....
ONE OF THESE PEOPLE...
...IS THE REAPER MAGICIAN, HUH...
I'll see you all again tomorrow.
-The Reaper Magician
WHAT COULD HE BE THINKING NOW?

EVERY-THING IS NOW IN ORDER.
WELL, MAGIC CLUB MEM-BERS...
...I HOPE YOU'RE LOOKING FORWARD TO ACT 2 OF THE MAGICAL HORROR-SHOW.
HEH HEH HEH...
TAKATO-KUN.

SORRY TO INTERRUPT YOU IN THE MIDDLE OF PLAYING...
BUT NOW THAT THE MURDER HAS HAPPENED, IT'S BEST IF YOU GO STRAIGHT HOME AFTER SCHOOL
SORRY, PLAYING THE PIANO HELPS ME CONCENTRATE ON MY THOUGHTS.
AND I DON'T HAVE A PIANO AT HOME RIGHT NOW...
...YOUR THOUGHTS...?
YOU MEAN ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED TO FUJIEDA-SAN...?
....
I THINK I CAN TELL YOU, MISS HIMENO...
I BELIEVE THAT THE REAPER MAGICIAN WHO KILLED FUJIEDA-SEMPAI...
...IS SOMEONE INVOLVED IN THE MAGIC CLUB.
WHAT?!


IT... IT COULDN'T BE.
YOU MEAN ONE OF US KILLED FUJIEDA-SAN?!
DO YOU THINK SOMEONE HELD A GRUDGE AGAINST HER SOMEHOW?
I DON'T KNOW.

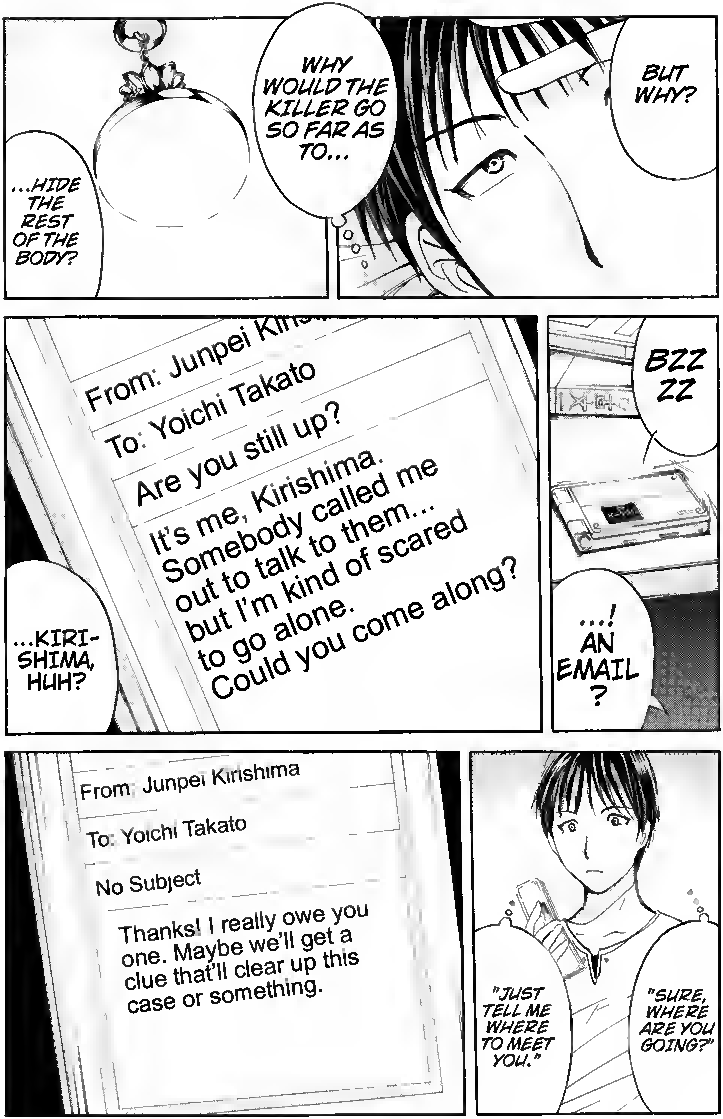

BUT FOR THE "REAPER MAGI-CIAN..."
HM?
...MOTIVE MIGHT BE A TRIVIAL MATTER.
THE MURDERER PROBABLY IS SOMEONE WHO IS RATHER TWO-FACED.
USUALLY, THESE KINDS OF PEOPLE BLEND INTO THE CROWD, AND DON'T STAND OUT AT ALL.
BUT WHEN THEY DROP THEIR MASK AND REVEAL THEIR TRUE SELF...

...THEY REVEAL THE HORRIFYING CUNNING CRUELTY...
...OF A NATURAL BORN MONSTER.

SO LAAATE..
FWSH
!
GASP
YOU WERE THE ONE WHO CALLED ME OUT!
YOU'RE PRETTY LATE COMIN' HOME, YOICHI.
WASN'T YOUR FESTIVAL CAN-CELLED?
I SAW THERE WAS THIS HUGE COMMOTION, ON TV, A MURDER OR SOMETHING?
...YEAH.

....
WH... WHAT?!
IT'S NOT... YOU DIDN'T...
...THE POLICE HAD A LOT OF QUES-TIONS FOR ME
...THE VICTIM WAS AN UPPER-CLASSMAN IN MAGIC CLUB WITH ME, SO...
I... I DON'T... I'M JUST WORRIED ABOUT YOU, THAT'S ALL.
WHENEVER A STRANGE INCIDENT OCCURS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD OR AT SCHOOL, YOU ALWAYS SUSPECT RIGHT AWAY THAT I MIGHT HAVE HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH IT...
WHY IS THAT?
...WHY DO YOU ALWAYS DO THIS?
IT'S BEEN LIKE THIS AS LONG AS I CAN REMEM-BER
THANK YOU, NATASHA.
DINNER IS READY.
WEL-COME HOME, YOICHI-SAN.

....
SHF
I'M GOING TO CHANGE.
THE REST OF FUJIEDA-SEMPAI'S BODY STILL HASN'T SHOWN UP YET...
...THE KILLER MOVED JUST THE HEAD, LIKELY BECAUSE CARRYING AROUND A DEAD BODY IS NOT A SIMPLE MATTER.
SO... THE REST OF THE BODY IS PROBABLY STILL ON CAMPUS SOMEWHERE.


BUT WHY?
WHY WOULD THE KILLER GO SO FAR AS TO...
...HIDE THE REST OF THE BODY?
From: Junpei Kir
To: Yoichi Takato
Are you still up?
It's me, Kirishima.
Somebody called me out to talk to them... but I'm kind of scared to go alone.
Could you come along?
...KIRI-SHIMA, HUH?
BZZ ZZ
...! AN EMAIL ?
From: Junpei Kirishima
To: Yoichi Takato
No Subject
Thanks! I really owe you one. Maybe we'll get a clue that'll clear up this case or something.
"JUST TELL ME WHERE TO MEET YOU."
"SURE, WHERE ARE YOU GOING?"

A CLUE TO CLEAR UP THE CASE?
11:40...
....
IT'S ABOUT THE TIME...
SHFF
SHFF
!
SHF

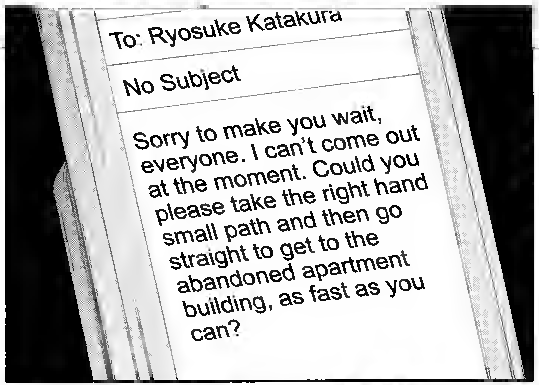
KIRI-SHIMA CALLED ME OUT HERE...
WH? ME TOO.
BUT IT DIDN'T SEEM LIKE HE'D CALLED ANYONE ELSE OUT...

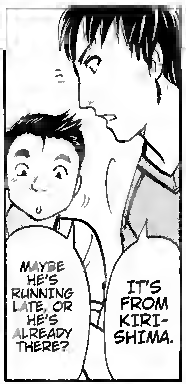
From: Junpei Kirishi
To: Ryosuke Kataku
Are you still up, Presi
It's me, Kirishima.
Somebody called me out to talk to them... but I'm kind of scared to go alone.
Could you come along?
LOOK.

KINDAICHI CASE FILES: TAKATO'S SIDE
BY SEIMARU AMAGI AND FUMIYA SATO
WHAT, TAKATO...? BUT WHY ARE YOU HERE?
PRESI-DENT KATAKURA!
Translated by Abby Lehrke
Adaptation by Mika Anami
YKS SERVICES LLC / SKY-J.P.N. Inc.

I SEE! KIRI-SHIMA-KUN... HE WAS SO LONELY AND AFRAID THAT HE ENDED UP CALLING EVERYONE OUT HERE.
MISS HIMENO!

HM? WHY ARE THE TWO OF YOU HERE...?
!
....

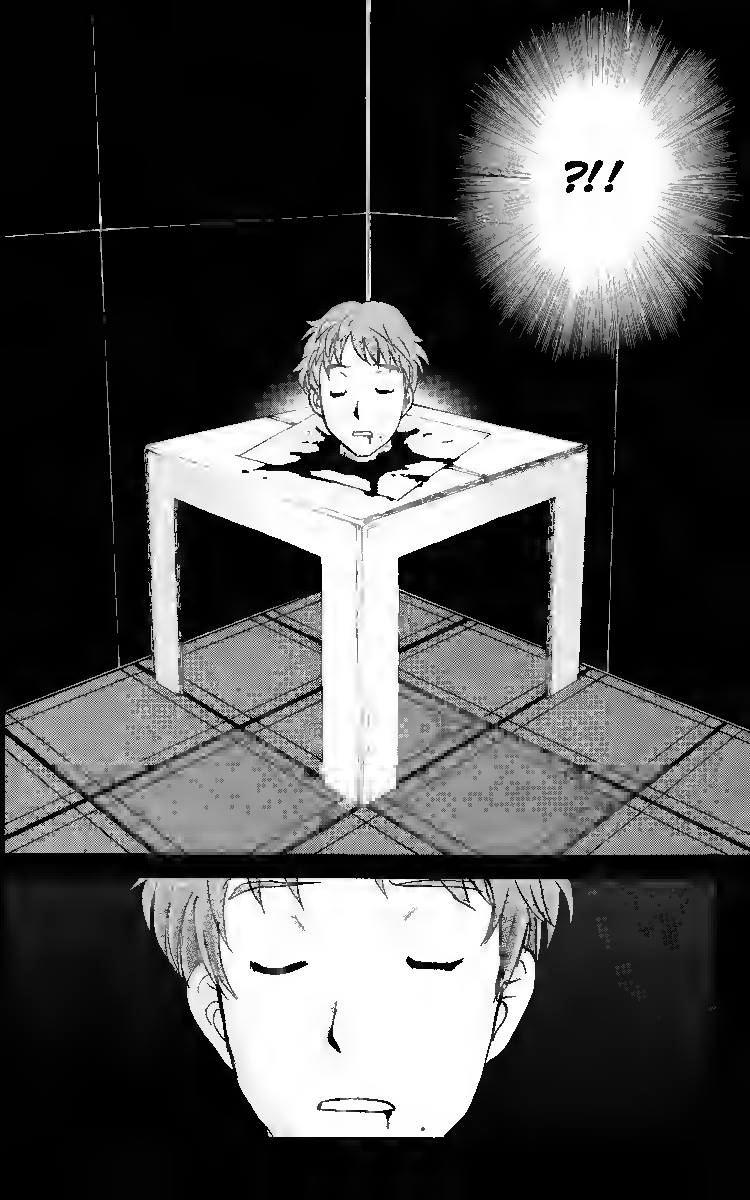

To: Ryosuke Katakura
No Subject
Sorry to make you wait, everyone. I can't come out at the moment. Could you please take the right hand small path and then go straight to get to the abandoned apartment building, as fast as you can?



THIS STORY IS FICTIONAL AND COMPLETELY UNRELATED TO REAL PEOPLE, GROUPS, OR EVENTS

LOOK, IT LOOKS ABANDONED, BUT...
ONE OF THE ROOMS IS LIT UP.
From Junpei Kirishima
To Ryosuke Katakura
No Subject
Come to the room with the light on!
Please!
THAT'S THE ROOM!
BANG
BANG
!
CLANCK CLANCK
IT WON'T OPEN.
IT'S LOCKED.
WHAT THE HECK?!

?!
pei Kirishima
ku Arakida
No Subject
Welcome to the second act of the Magical Horrorshow. The show is about to start, so please open up the letter slot and take a good look inside.
- The Reaper Magicia
BZ BZ BZ
AGAIN ...?
THE HECK'RE YOU DOING, KIRI-SHIMA?
WHA-
!!
...
JUMP

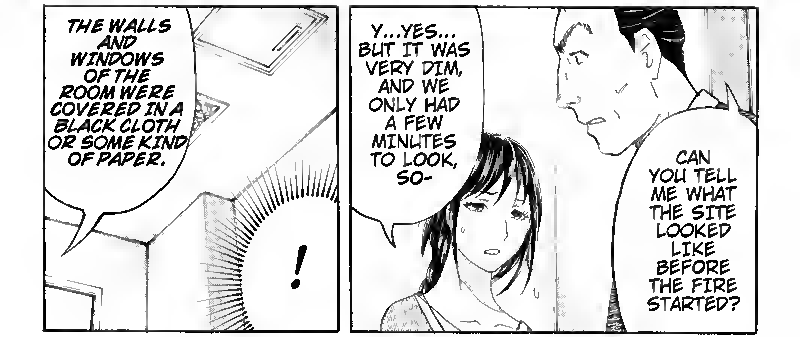


K... KIRI-SHI-MA..!!
EE!
AAAH HHH!
WH-
THE POWER WENT OUT!
FFT...
AH...
EVERY-ONE GET BACK...
LOOK OUT!
AH... THERE'S SMOKE COMING OUT FROM THE BOTTOM OF THE DOOR...
IT CAN'T BE...
HSS
HSS
HSS
WH... WHAT'S THAT SOUND?

ズン
BOOM
ゴゴゴ
RUMBLE
オオオオオオ
WHAT THE...?

I SEE.
WE'RE RUSHING TO THE SITE AS WE SPEAK, OVER.
THERE WAS AN EXPLOSION OF A DESERTED HOME IN XXX CITY!
KINDAICHI CASE FILES: TAKATO'S SIDE
BY SEIMARU AMAGI AND FUMIYA SATO
Translated by Abby Lehrk
Adaptation by Mike Anami
YKS SERVICES LLC / SKY JAPAN, Inc.

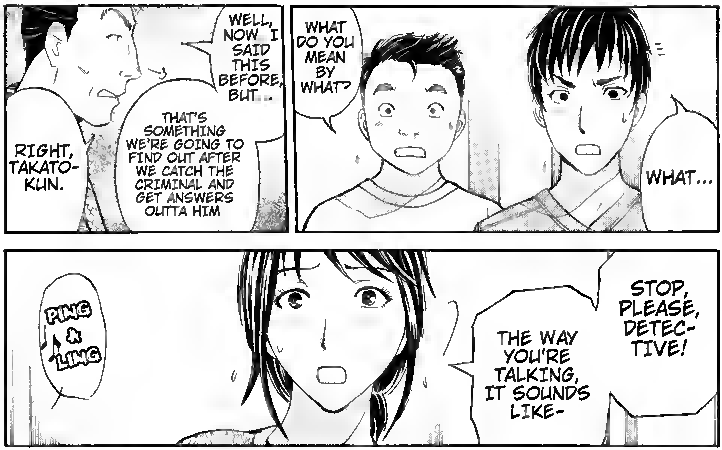
CHOSEN TO BE THE WITNESSES TO THIS SEVERED HEAD MAGIC SHOW ONCE MORE...
SO, IT'S ALL OF YOU AGAIN.


THE WALLS AND WINDOWS OF THE ROOM WERE COVERED IN A BLACK CLOTH OR SOME KIND OF PAPER.
!
Y...YES... BUT IT WAS VERY DIM, AND WE ONLY HAD A FEW MINUTES TO LOOK, SO-
CAN YOU TELL ME WHAT THE SITE LOOKED LIKE BEFORE THE FIRE STARTED?

AND THE FLOOR WAS COVERED WITH A BLACK AND RED LATTICE PRINT CARPET.
IT WAS VERY MUCH LIKE THE STAGE FOR A MAGIC SHOW.
AND IN THE MIDDLE OF THAT STAGE, THERE WAS A TABLE MADE OF CARDBOARD, AND ON IT WAS KIRISHIMA'S HEAD.
....
TAKATO-KUN.
HM... YOU WERE ABLE TO COOLLY OBSERVE THINGS AGAIN THIS TIME.
EVEN THOUGH YOUR FRIEND'S SEVERED HEAD WAS RIGHT IN FRONT OF YOU.
SINCE YOU HAVE ASKED US TO TELL YOU WHAT THE SCENE LOOKED LIKE...
I AM JUST TELLING YOU EXACTLY WHAT I SAW, DETECTIVE GONDO.

THIS STORY IS FICTIONAL, AND COMPLETELY UNRELATED TO REAL PEOPLE, GROUPS, OR EVENTS

THOUGH... THE FIRST TIME, IT WAS ALMOST AS IF THE CRIMINAL WAS MOCKING US, BY CREATING A PERFECT LOCKED ROOM.
AND THE REAPER MAGICIAN PULLED OFF A PERFORMANCE OF AN IMPOSSIBLE CRIME
THIS TIME, THE CIRCUMSTANCES WERE SIMILAR, BUT...
THE SHOW ENDED BY THE SCENE OF THE CRIME GETTING BURNED AWAY.
WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?


WHAT...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY WHAT?
WELL, NOW I SAID THIS BEFORE, BUT...
THAT'S SOMETHING WE'RE GOING TO FIND OUT AFTER WE CATCH THE CRIMINAL AND GET ANSWERS OUTTA HIM
RIGHT, TAKATO-KUN.
STOP, PLEASE, DETECTIVE!
THE WAY YOU'RE TALKING, IT SOUNDS LIKE-
RING A LING

AH... AN EMAIL.
IT'S FROM KUROE.
AH! THAT'S RIGHT, KUROE-KUN IS THE ONLY ONE WHO ISN'T HERE.
AHHH! THAT'S-THAT'S RIGHT!
WAIT JUST A MOMENT.
THIS ISN'T A MESSAGE FROM KUROE-SEMPAI.

-The Reaper Magician

!
To: Ryosuke
No Subject
This is the last act of the Magic Horror Show. You know the stage well, it's the Magic Club room. It's just about time for the climax to start.
Don't miss it.
-The Reaper Magician
THIS IS...! THE REAPER MAGI-CIAN!!

ゴ DOOOOOOM オオオ
WEE OOOH WEE OOOH
ファーン ファーン
DASH
DARN! THIS IS INSANE!
LET'S GO! TO SHUOH HIGH SCHOOL!
!!
WH...

K...
KUROE ....!
NOOOOO!

....
SHIFF
AND THEN...
MS HIMENO!
HEY! SOMEONE CALL FORENSICS QUICK!
WHY...? WHY WOULD THIS...?
HEH
THIS IS.... A CHALLENGE!
WH-
GRK
ギ

I WILL TAKE YOU UP ON THAT CHALLENGE, REAPER MAGICIAN!!
....
I'LL SURELY BE THE ONE TO UNCOVER THE MYSTERY BEHIND YOUR TRICKS!

I SWEAR ON THE NAME OF MY MOTHER,
REIKO CHIKAMIYA, THE ACCLAIMED GENIUS MAGICIAN...!

I'VE SEEN ALL KINDS OF CRIMINALS OVER THE YEARS...
...BUT THIS GUY COULD BE ...
IN FACT... HE EVEN GAVE A FAINT SMILE, ACTUALLY...?!
THE SEVERED HEAD OF SOMEONE HE KNOWS IS RIGHT IN FRONT OF HIM, BUT HE MAINTAINS A STRAIGHT FACE...
...THIS KID...
KINDAICHI CASE FILES: TAKATO'S SIDE
AND FUMIYA SATO

Translated by Abby Lehrke
Adaptation by Mika Amami
YKS SERVICES LLC /
SKY JAPAN, Inc.

YOU HAVE SOMETHING YOU WANT TO SAY TO ME, DON'T YOU?
!
DETEC-TIVE GONDOU.
...I DO INDEED. I HAVE A NUMBER OF THINGS I WANT TO ASK YOU.
WILL YOU COME ALONG WITH ME, TAKATO-KUN?
OF COURSE.
I WILL PROVIDE YOU WITH AS MUCH INFORMATION AS POSSIBLE ...
...ON ONE CONDI-TION.
COULD YOU PLEASE ALLOW ME ACCESS TO THE AREAS WHERE THE POLICE HAVE CORDONED OFF?
...AND I WILL LIKE TO GET DETAILS ABOUT THE MATERIAL EVIDENCE.
....
I THINK YOU MISUN-DERSTOOD ME ...

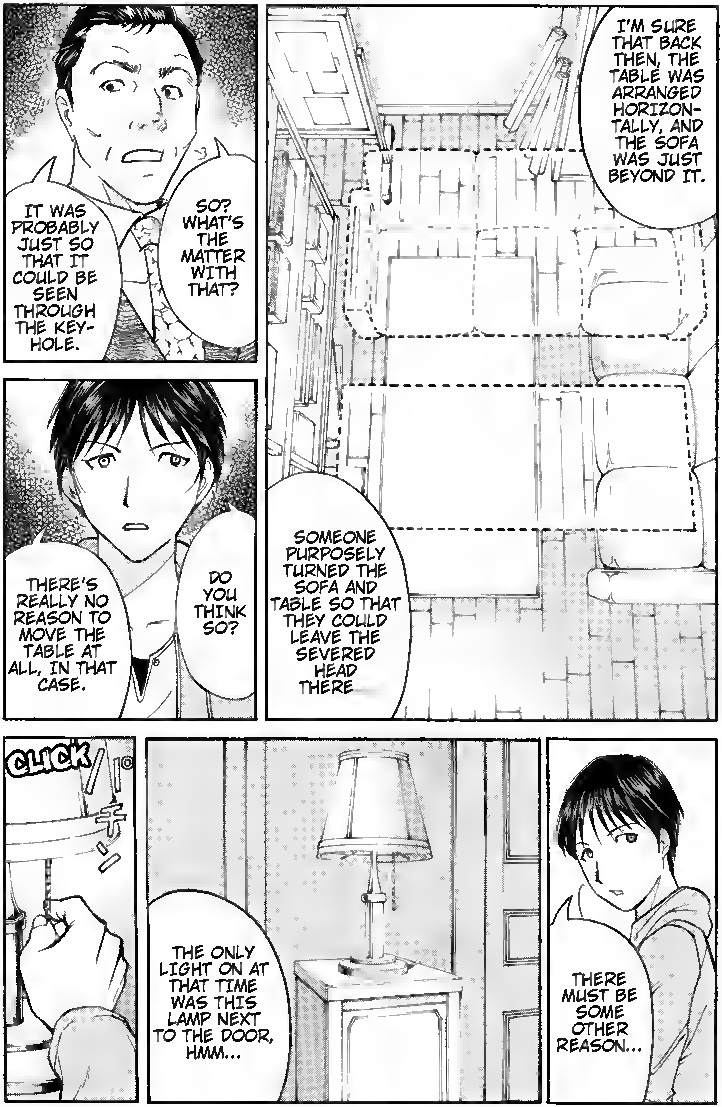
THIS STORY IS FICTIONAL, AND COMPLETELY UNRELATED TO REAL PEOPLE, GROUPS, OR EVENTS.

I'M SAYING I WANT TO TALK TO YOU...
...AS A MATERIAL WITNESS IN THIS CASE!
WHA-
Y- YOU THINK TAKATO'S-?!
PLEASE, WAIT, DETEC-TIVE!
THERE'S NO WAY THAT TAKATO-KUN COULD HAVE-!
I DO...
...AGREE THAT I'VE SEEMED LIKE A SUSPICIOUS PERSON, FROM THE VERY START...
...BUT IF I WERE THE KILLER, I WOULD NEVER ACT LIKE THAT IN FRONT OF THE POLICE.

I WOULD ACT MORE OBEDI-ENT.
I WOULD PLAY THE PART OF THE FRIGHTENED LITTLE LAMB...
BAM!
FINE! I'LL DO THIS INFORMATION TRADE YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT!
BUT ONLY BECAUSE YOU'D KNOW BEST OUT OF ANYONE, WOULDN'T YOU?!

ゴオオオ
DOOOOM
T-TAKATO-KUN...
BIOLOGY STORAGE
生物準備室
THERE, AS YOU CAN SEE, WE LOCKED THIS ROOM...
...RIGHT AFTER THE INVESTIGATION, AND NOTHING HAS BEEN MOVED.
THINKING ABOUT IT NOW, THERE IS SOMETHING STRANGE.
SO WHAT KIND OF INTERESTING INFORMATION COULD YOU POSSIBLY GLEAN FROM THE SITE OF THE FIRST MURDER?
WHAT?

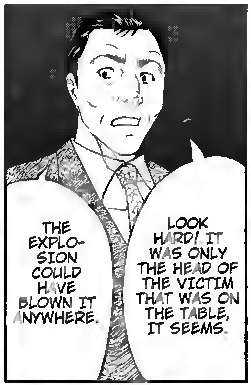
I'VE BEEN INSIDE THIS ROOM BEFORE THE MURDER OCCURRED.
AND AT THAT TIME...
EX-CUSE ME...
I'VE GOT BIOLOGY REPORTS.
OH! THANKS.
JUST LEAVE THEM ON THE TABLE, THERE.
...YES, THAT'S IT.

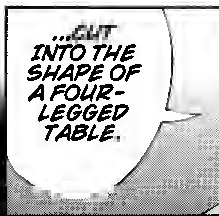

I'M SURE THAT BACK THEN, THE TABLE WAS ARRANGED HORIZONTALLY, AND THE SOFA WAS JUST BEYOND IT.
SO? WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH THAT?
IT WAS PROBABLY JUST SO THAT IT COULD BE SEEN THROUGH THE KEY-HOLE.
SOMEONE PURPOSELY TURNED THE SOFA AND TABLE SO THAT THEY COULD LEAVE THE SEVERED HEAD THERE
DO YOU THINK SO?
THERE'S REALLY NO REASON TO MOVE THE TABLE AT ALL, IN THAT CASE.
THERE MUST BE SOME OTHER REASON...
THE ONLY LIGHT ON AT THAT TIME WAS THIS LAMP NEXT TO THE DOOR, HMM...
CLICK

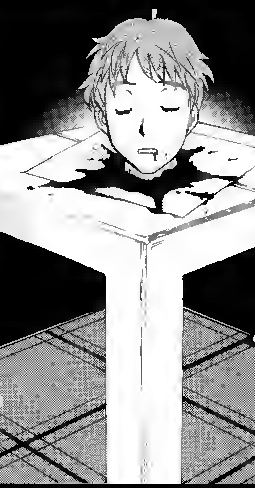
HEY, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
...
DETEC-TIVE GONDOU ..
...WHAT WAS FUJIEDA-SEMPAI'S CAUSE OF DEATH?
IF MY GUESS IS RIGHT, FUJIEDA-SEMPAI WAS KILLED...
...WHEN SHE PARTED WAYS WITH ME AND RETURNED TO THE MAGIC CLUB ROOM.
IN WHICH CASE, THE MANNER OF DEATH WOULD HAVE TO BE SOMETHING THAT WOULDN'T LEAVE BLOOD.
PROBABLY SOMETHING LIKE STRANGU-LATION, RIGHT...?
THE PERSON IN QUESTION USED SOMETHING LIKE ROPE TO STRANGLE HER
AND THEN LATER SEVERED HER HEAD!
QUIT TALKING ABOUT IT LIKE YOU WIT-NESSED IT YOUR-SELF!
YES, IT WAS STRAN-GULA-TION!

ACTUALLY, ON THE DAY OF THE MURDER, I SAW SOMEONE DOING SOMETHING THAT CALIGHT MY ATTENTION.
YOUR ATTEN-TION?
GOOD FOR WHAT?
I THOUGHT SO...
...IN THAT CASE, THE ODDS ARE GOOD.
HOWEVER, AFTERWARDS THAT PERSON REALIZED IT AS WELL, AND STARTED BEHAVING ODDLY.
THEY SEEMED TO HAVE NO IDEA THAT I SAW THEM, AND SO I TRIED NOT TO WORRY ABOUT IT MYSELF.
YES, BUT I'M SURE THAT PERSON DIDN'T REALIZE IT.
...THERE'S A POSSI-BILITY THAT AN INNOCENT PERSON COULD BE ACCUSED OF MURDER.
IF I'M WRONG...
I CAN'T DO THAT QUITE YET.
WHAT?!
JUST COME OUT AND SAY IT!
COME ON! WHAT THE HECK IS THIS?!

SMILE
ニコ。
DON'T YOU AGREE?
!
DETEC-TIVE GONDOU?
I HAVE TO OBTAIN EVIDENCE ENOUGH TO CONVINCE MYSELF THAT THEY COMMITTED THE CRIME.
I CAN'T JUST THROW SUSPICION ON SOME-ONE.
DON'T YOU DARE UNDER-ESTIMATE A DETEC-TIVE'S INTUITION!
THOSE BOTTOMLESS DARK EYES OF YOURS AREN'T HUMAN AT ALL.
YOU LITTLE PUNK... I'LL EXPOSE THE REAL YOU!
ゴォォォ
DOOOOOOM
ォォ







KINDAICHI CASE FILES: TAKATO'S SIDE

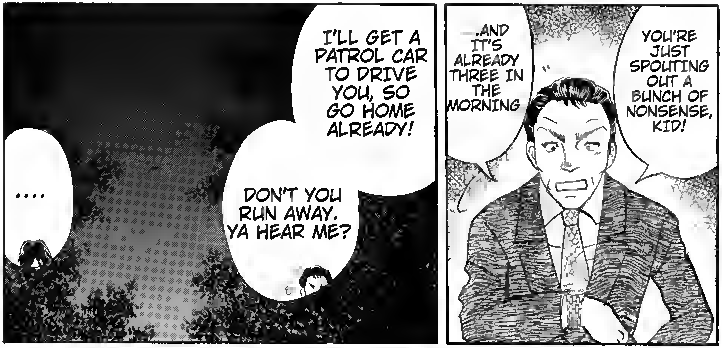
BY SEIHARU AMAGI AND FUMITA SATO

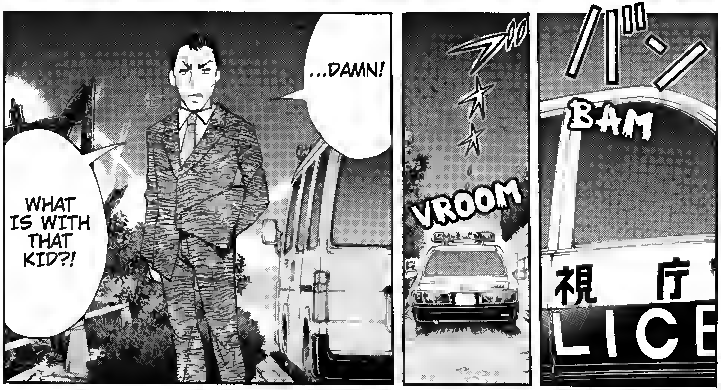
Translated by Abby Lehrke
Adaptation by Mika Yonami
YKS SERVICES LLC /
SKY JAPAN, Inc.

WE SAW THAT SIGHT...
...THROUGH THE MAIL SLOT IN THE DOOR.
WELL, EITHER WAY, TAKING ALL OF THE WITNESS TESTI-MONY INTO ACCOUNT.
IT LOOKS LIKE THE SITUATION IS THE SAME AS THE FIRST MURDER, WITHOUT A CHANGE.
DO YOU REALLY THINK SO?
WHAA ?
THE FIRST MURDER...
...WAS A PERFECT MAGIC SHOW.
WE PEEKED THROUGH THE KEYHOLE TO REVEAL A SEVERED HEAD.
BUT WHEN WE OPENED THE DOOR, IT HAD DISAPPEARED LIKE SMOKE.
TRULY, IT WAS A MAGIC HORROR-SHOW.

EVEN IF YOU CALL THAT A DISAPPEARING ACT, IT'S CERTAINLY A VIOLENT WAY OF DROPPING THE CURTAIN.
BUT JUST AFTER WE SAW IT THE LIGHTS WENT OUT AND THE ROOM EXPLODED.
THE SECOND MURDER WAS THE SAME UP TO THE PART OF THE SEVERED HEAD IN A LOCKED ROOM,
IT WAS MERELY A SEVERED HEAD LEFT ON THE TOP OF A DESK, LIKE IT WAS ON DISPLAY.
AND THE THIRD KILLING WASN'T FRAMED AS A MAGIC SHOW AT ALL.
I... DON'T KNOW...
THEN WHY GO ON TO THE SECOND AND THIRD MURDER THAT MERELY REFLECT A MAGIC SHOW...?
IF THE REAPER MAGICIAN WAS ABLE TO SHOW US SUCH A SUBTLE AND MYSTERIOUS LOCKED ROOM MURDER SHOW IN THE BEGINNING..
OR COULD IT BE...

...PLAYED SOME OTHER PART ENTIRELY...?
...THAT THE SECOND AND THIRD MURDER...
...WASN'T SEPARATED INTO INDIVIDUAL "ACTS" AT ALL...
HUH?
IN OTHER WORDS... THE MAGIC SHOW PUT ON BY THIS REAPER MAGICIAN...
...PART OF ONE COMPLETE SHOW.
...THAT EACH OF THESE THREE PARTS WERE...

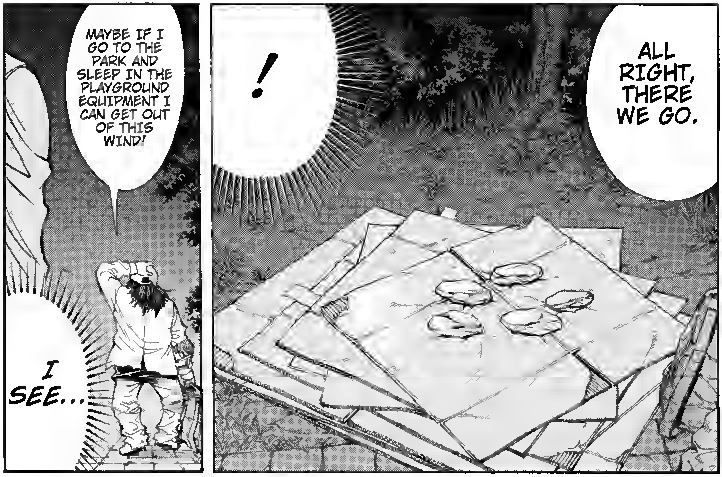

YOU'RE JUST SPOUTING OUT A BUNCH OF NONSENSE, KID!
...AND IT'S ALREADY THREE IN THE MORNING
I'LL GET A PATROL CAR TO DRIVE YOU, SO GO HOME ALREADY!
DON'T YOU RUN AWAY, YA HEAR ME?
....

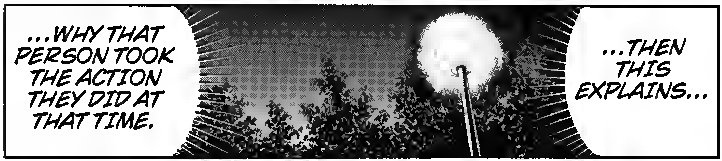


THIS STORY IS FICTIONAL, AND COMPLETELY UNRELATED TO REAL PEOPLE, GROUPS, OR EVENTS.

PRETTY WINDY OUT THERE.
...
NO WONDER THAT OLD ABANDONED PLACE WENT UP IN FLAMES AND BURNT TO CRISP.
OFFICER, COULD YOU PLEASE STOP THE CAR FOR A MINUTE?
RRRRT
WH?
PLEASE!
....
BAM
WHY'D YOU ASK ME TO STOP IN A PLACE LIKE THIS?
ゴオオ...
FWOOO
rustle
rustle

HUH?
!
ALUGH... THAT'S IT! I JUST CAN'T GET OUTTA THIS WIND ANYWHERE!
FWOOO
SHUFFLE
FWIP
SHFF
SHFF
IT'S UN-NATURAL ...!!
THAT REALLY WAS UN-NATURAL ...!!


MAYBE IF I GO TO THE PARK AND SLEEP IN THE PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT I CAN GET OUT OF THIS WIND!
I SEE...
!
ALL RIGHT, THERE WE GO.


...WHY THAT PERSON TOOK THE ACTION THEY DID AT THAT TIME.
...THEN THIS EXPLAINS...

...WAS IN TRUTH A MUCH MORE IMPORTANT STRATEGIC MOVE.
IN THAT CASE, THE SECOND INCIDENT, THOUGH IT WASN'T VERY MAGICAL...

SMILE
I'LL WALK HOME FROM HERE, IF THAT'S ALL RIGHT.
IF I COME HOME IN A PATROL CAR, MY FATHER MIGHT MAKE A SCENE.
SORRY OFFICER.
VROOM
YES SIR, THANK YOU.
WELL, JUST BE SURE TO GO RIGHT HOME.
AH... I SEE.
WELL, THEN...
FSH

IT IS TIME TO REVEAL THE MYSTERY ...

KINDAICHI CASE FILES: TAKATO'S SIDE
BY SEIMARU AMAGI AND FUMIYA SATO
Translated by Abby Lehrke
Adaptation by Mika Minami
YKS SERVICES LLC / SKY JAPAN Inc.
ゴォォォ
FWOOOSH
A LOVELY WIND...
SHF
SHF
IT'LL BURN WELL IF THIS KEEPS UP.
ガチャ
CLICK
ゴ!!
TIME FOR THE LAST ACT OF THE MAGIC HORROR SHOW TO BEGIN!
FLUTTER
FLUTTER
FWOOO
THE FIRE STORM!

SPLSH
HEH HEH HEH
BURN EVERY-THING UP!
SPLSH
BURN ....
THIS WILL CELEBRATE THE SUCCESS OF THE REAPER MAGICIAN'S MOST IMPRESSIVE MAGIC TRICK!
I CALL IT THE FIRE STORM!
I KNEW THIS WAS YOUR NEXT MOVE, REAPER MAGICIAN ...
GASP

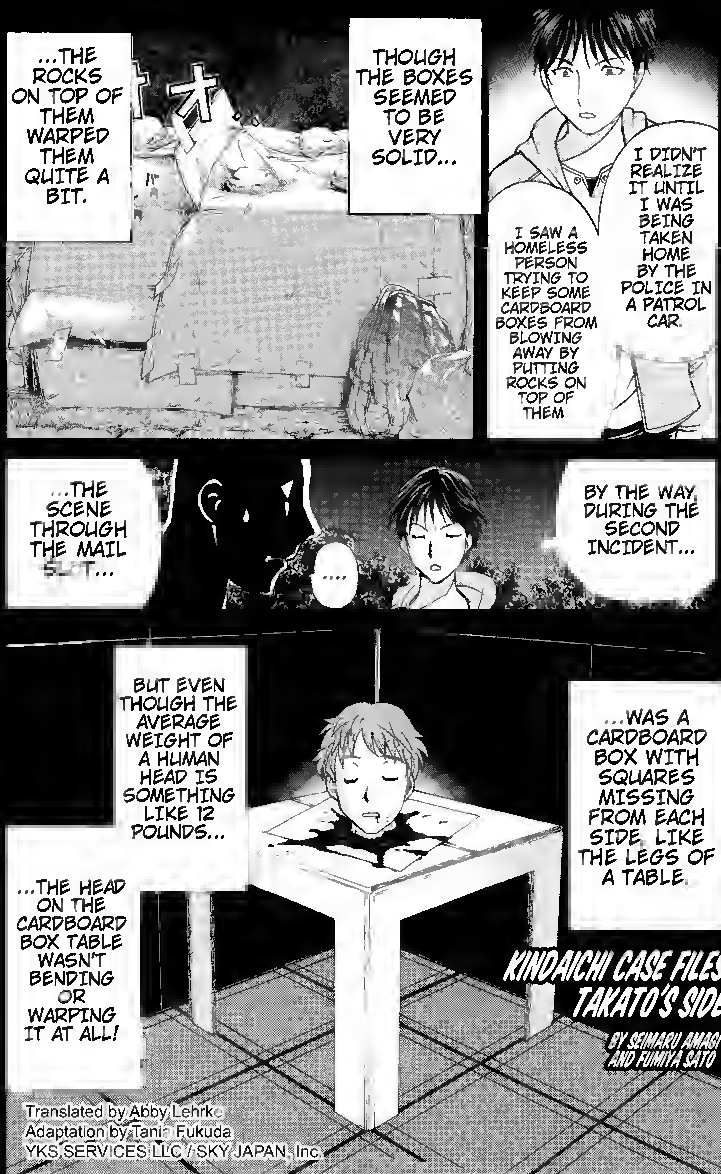
THIS STORY IS FICTIONAL, AND COMPLETELY UNRELATED TO REAL PEOPLE, GROUPS, OR EVENTS.

I'M SURE IN THE TOWER FOR YOUR FIRE STORM...
?!
...YOU HAVE HIDDEN FUJIEDA-SEMPAI'S BODY, HAVEN'T YOU?
THE WAY YOUR PLAN WAS SET UP, THERE WAS CLEARLY NO OPPORTUNITY TO TAKE THE BODY OFF CAMPUS.
....
THIS WAS THE ONLY PLACE YOU COULD HAVE HIDDEN HER BODY ON CAMPUS
WITH THIS TOWER PREPARED FOR THE FIRE STORM AT THE CANCELED SCHOOL FESTIVAL
YOU COULD START A FIRE AND DISPOSE OF THE BODY AND IT WILL ONLY BE FOUND WHEN THEY TAKE IT APART LATER.
THERE IS A REASON...
....
...THAT YOU MUST TAKE CARE OF HER BODY TONIGHT ...

YOU HAD TO DO IT BEFORE THE TOWER IS TAKEN DOWN TOMORROW.
YES... TONIGHT IS THE NIGHT.
FLUTTER FLUTTER
バタバタ
THAT IS HOW I KNEW THAT YOU WOULD BE HERE TONIGHT.
SO...
LET'S BEGIN, SHALL WE?
REAPER MAGI-CIAN.
....

IT'S TIME TO REVEAL THE SECRETS...
...OF YOUR MAGIC HORROR-SHOW!

ゴォォォ
FWOOO
FIRST, LET'S INVESTIGATE THE SECOND INCIDENT.
THE PLACE THE SECOND VICTIM APPEARED...
...WAS A LOCKED ROOM, JUST LIKE THE FIRST.
AFTER A LITTLE WHILE THE ROOM EXPLODED, DESTROYING EVERYTHING.
THAT IS HOW THE EVENTS PROCEEDED.
THAT WAS THE COMPLEMENT TO THE FIRST MURDER MAGIC TRICK,
AND IT WAS A PSYCHOLOGICAL TRICK THAT CREATED A PERFECT ALIBI FOR THE REAL MURDERER.
....!


...THE ROCKS ON TOP OF THEM WARPED THEM QUITE A BIT.
THOUGH THE BOXES SEEMED TO BE VERY SOLID...
I SAW A HOMELESS PERSON TRYING TO KEEP SOME CARDBOARD BOXES FROM BLOWING AWAY BY PUTTING ROCKS ON TOP OF THEM
I DIDN'T REALIZE IT UNTIL I WAS BEING TAKEN HOME BY THE POLICE IN A PATROL CAR.
...THE SCENE THROUGH THE MAIL SLOT...
....
BY THE WAY, DURING THE SECOND INCIDENT...
BUT EVEN THOUGH THE AVERAGE WEIGHT OF A HUMAN HEAD IS SOMETHING LIKE 12 POUNDS...
...THE HEAD ON THE CARDBOARD BOX TABLE WASN'T BENDING OR WARPING IT AT ALL!
...WAS A CARDBOARD BOX WITH SQUARES MISSING FROM EACH SIDE, LIKE THE LEGS OF A TABLE.
KINDAICHI CASE FILES: TAKATO'S SIDE
BY SHIMAKU AMAGI AND FUMIYA SATO
Translated by Abby Lehrke
Adaptation by Tani Fukuda
YKS SERVICES LLC / SKY JAPAN Inc.

WHY WOULD SOMETHING LIKE THAT HAPPEN?
I CAN ONLY THINK OF ONE ANSWER.
THERE WAS NO SEVERED HEAD ON THAT TABLE.
THAT WAS NOTHING MORE THAN A LIVING PERSON'S HEAD...
...STICKING THROUGH A HOLE IN THE CARDBOARD.
THE MIRROR-USING TECHNIQUE...
....
...OF THE CLASSIC MAGIC TRICK KNOWN AS THE SPHYNX.
SO...
...THAT'S IT, ISN'T IT?

FWOOO
JUNPEI KIRI-SHIMA.
....

IT LOOKED EXACTLY LIKE THERE WAS A SEVERED HEAD SITTING ON THE TABLE JUST AS IN THE FAMOUS SPHYNX ILLUSION.
....
YOU PUT TWO MIRRORS BETWEEN THE LEGS OF THE TABLE, AT EXACT RIGHT ANGLES TO THE WALL.
THE REFLECTED IMAGE IN THE MIRRORS CREATED AN OPTICAL ILLUSION OF SPACE BENEATH THE TABLE.
IT'S A TRICK THAT ANY ONE OF THE MAGIC CLUB MEMBERS WOULD BE FAMILIAR WITH.
BUT THE IMAGE OF FUJIEDA-SEMPAI'S TRAGIC SEVERED HEAD MURDER WAS SO STRONG...
...ASSUMING THAT ANOTHER MURDER IN THE SAME VEIN HAD OCCURRED WAS COMPLETELY NATURAL.
THAT WAS THE REALLY CLEVER PSYCHO-LOGICAL TRICK, KIRI-SHIMA...
OR SHOULD I CALL YOU...

YOU WERE THE ONE WHO MURDERED TSUBAKI FUJIEDA AND MASAYA KUROE.
THE TRUE KILLER, WHO CUT OFF THEIR HEADS AND CREATED A GRISLY MAGIC SHOW.
....
REAPER MAGI-CIAN.
YOU ARE THE REAPER MAGI-CIAN!

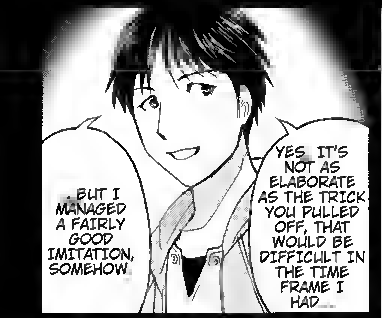
I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING, IT SEEMS LIKE SOMEONE DRUGGED ME AFTER SCHOOL AND I PASSED OUT.
I JUST WOKE UP IN A CORNER OF THE SCHOOL BUILDING
I REALLY HAVE NO IDEA WHAT'S UP!
FWOOO
WH... WHOA, WAIT JUST A SEC, TAKATO!
WHAT ARE YOU GOING ON ABOUT?
RUSTLE RUSTLE

I WAS FEELING KIND OF DOWN, SO I THOUGHT
OH, THAT?
SO WHAT'S WITH THE PLASTIC BOTTLES FULL OF GASOLINE AND THE LIGHTER?

I MEAN, REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED WHEN WE FOUND FUJIEDA-SEMPAI?
WELL, I'M NOT THAT GUY, RIGHT?
HEH
クス。
...IS THAT REALLY SOMETHING THE CRUEL AND CLEVER MAN WHO PUT TOGETHER THESE TRICKS SHOULD BE SAYING?
SOMETHING OF A LIE EXCUSE...

DON'T FORGET, SOMEONE CARRIED HER HEAD OFF THEN.
FUJII-SEMPAI'S.
I WAS IN FRONT OF THE DOOR THE WHOLE TIME...
YOU SAW HER SEVERED HEAD THROUGH THE KEY-HOLE TOO, DIDN'T YOU?
MR. NEW SHUOH STUDENT WITH FULL POINTS YOICHI TAKATO!
YOU DON'T HAVE ANY EXPLANATION FOR THAT, NOW DO YOU?
I MEAN, I WAS OUT OF MY MIND WITH FEAR RIGHT THERE IN FRONT OF YOU!
NO WAY I COULD DO THAT!
WHEN I SAW THAT, I THOUGHT...
THE HOMELESS MAN GAVE UP AND FOLDED UP HIS BOXES AND WENT INTO THE PARK
HIS CARDBOARD BOX HOUSE LOOKED LIKE IT WAS GOING TO BE BLOWN OVER BY THE WIND SO...
I ALSO LEARNED THAT TRICK FROM THE HOME-LESS MAN.
HUH?!

?!
...YOU COULD EASILY HAVE MADE IT DISAPPEAR, EVEN FROM OUTSIDE THE ROOM, DON'T YOU THINK?
...IF FUJIEDA-SEMPAI'S SEVERED HEAD THAT WE SAW THROUGH THE KEY-HOLE...
...COULD BE FOLDED UP JUST LIKE THAT...
HAHAHA, WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
YOU CAN'T FOLD UP A SEVERED HEAD LIKE A CARD-BOARD BOX! NO WAY!
IT SEEMS LIKE YOUR TRUE NATURE IS COMING OUT AT LAST, KIRISHIMA.
TO THINK THAT THE TRUE FACE BEHIND THIS INNOCENT CHARACTER YOU'VE BEEN PLAYING...
...WAS THE CRUEL AND COLD SERIAL KILLER THE REAPER MAGICIAN.
YOU CAN BLUFF ALL YOU WANT! JUST EXPLAIN WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT, TAKATO!
HOW COULD SOMEONE FOLD UP A SEVERED HEAD AND MAKE IT DISAPPEAR FROM THE TOP OF A TABLE...
...IN A COMPLETELY LOCKED ROOM THAT NO ONE COULD ENTER OR EVEN REACH INTO?
TELL ME HOW A MAGNIFICENT MAGIC TRICK LIKE THAT COOULD BE DONE ..!!


BUT I MANAGED A FAIRLY GOOD IMITATION, SOMEHOW.
YES, IT'S NOT AS ELABORATE AS THE TRICK YOU PULLED OFF, THAT WOULD BE DIFFICULT IN THE TIME FRAME I HAD.

KINDAICHI CASE FILES: TAKATO'S SIDE

BY SHIMAKU AMARI AND YUMIYA SAITO

Translated by Abby Lehrke
Adaptation by Tania Fukuda
YKS SERVICES LLC / SKY JAPAN, Inc.

!!
....
!
IT'S...
IT CERTAINLY LOOKS QUITE REAL THROUGH THE KEYHOLE
KA-CHIK
BUT IF YOU TAKE A LOOK BEHIND THE CURTAIN...
MY SEVERED HEAD.
YOU SEE IT?
HEH

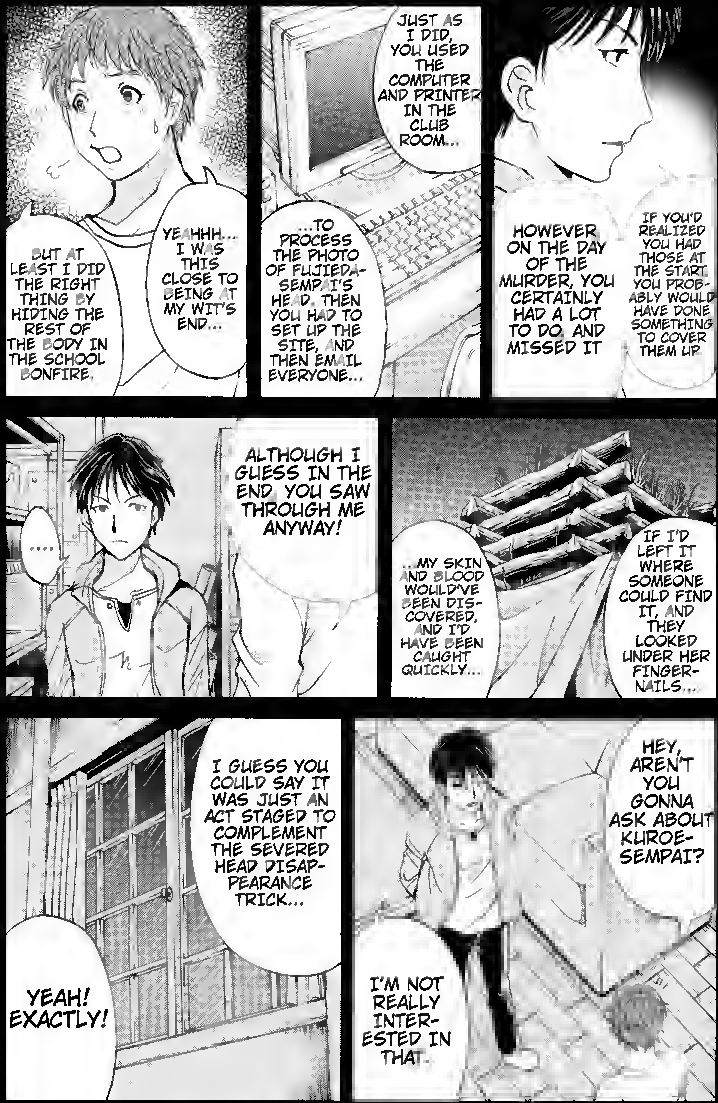
IT'S NOTHING BUT...
!!
...A FLAT PHOTO-GRAPH.
....

LOOKING AT IT THROUGH THE KEYHOLE WITH A SINGLE EYE YOU LOSE THE ABILITY TO ASSESS THINGS IN THREE DIMENSIONS
AND WITH AN EXACT CALCULATION USING THE VIEWPOINT AND VIEWING ANGLE, THE IMAGE WAS ELONGATED TO CREATE AN UNUSUALLY-SHAPED PICTURE
WITH AN ART TECHNIQUE CALLED TROMPE L'OEIL, IT APPEARS TO BE A REAL SEVERED HEAD LEFT ON THE TABLE.
YOU WERE THE FIRST ONE TO LOOK THROUGH THE KEY-HOLE TO THE INSIDE OF THE ROOM
YOU SCREAMED AND FELL TO THE FLOOR IN THE HALL-WAY.
F... FUJI-EDA-SAN?!
WH-
... AFTER THAT, DISREGARDING THE REST OF THE CLUB MEMBERS AS THEY PEEKED IN...
YOU CONTINUED TO SIT ON THE FLOOR IN THE HALLWAY AS IF YOUR LEGS HAD GIVEN OUT.
BUT THE TRUTH WAS...
YOU WERE HOLDING ONTO A FISHING LINE THAT YOU HAD CONCEALED IN A NOOK IN THE HALLWAY.
grip
THAT FISHING LINE WAS FED THROUGH THE GAP BENEATH THE DOOR
...AND ATTACHED TO THE PHOTO-GRAPH OF THE SEVERED HEAD.

Fwoo
AND WHEN EVERY-ONE HAD FINISHED LOOKING THROUGH THE KEY-HOLE...
YOU MADE AS THOUGH YOU WERE JUST GETTING UP AND CASUALLY PULLED
THREAD
TUG
IN DOING SO, JUST LIKE THIS...
THE "SEVERED HEAD" JUST FELL TO THE FLOOR
Fwip
SHF...
AND IT SLID UNDER THE SOFA, JUST LIKE THIS
ALL THAT WAS LEFT WAS THE PIECE OF PAPER THAT YOU STUCK TO THE TABLE WITH BLOOD...
...SO IT WOULDN'T SLIDE OFF THE TABLE WITH THE PHOTO
THEN, EVERYONE WENT INTO THE ROOM TO VERIFY THAT THE HEAD WAS INDEED GONE...
AND YOU WATCHED INNOCENTLY AS THE OTHERS LEFT, THINKING IT WAS SOME SORT OF MAGIC TRICK
THEN YOU CAME BACK TO PLACE THE REAL SEVERED HEAD ON TOP OF THE PIECE OF PAPER
IF YOU COLLECTED AND DESTROYED THE PHOTO UNDER THE SOFA, THERE WOULD BE NO EVIDENCE LEFT AND NOTHING OUT OF PLACE.
....
THAT IS, IF YOU HADN'T MADE SURE TO LOCK THE WINDOWS, LEAVING THE ROOM IN A LOCKED-ROOM STATE...

I WOULDN'T HAVE SUSPECTED YOU AT ALL, IN THAT CASE.
IF YOU HADN'T, WE WOULD HAVE ASSUMED THAT THE KILLER HAD...
...TAKEN THE HEAD AND FLED THROUGH THE WINDOW. THAT WOULD BE A NORMAL ASSUMPTION.
OF COURSE I DID IT ON PURPOSE.
WOULD NOT HAVE ACCIDENTALLY LOCKED THE WINDOWS AND OVERLOOKED THAT POSSIBILITY SURELY.
....
A MURDERER AS SMART AS YOU...
WAS IT BECAUSE YOU WANTED TO CREATE AN IMPOSSIBLE CRIME, A LOCKED ROOM MURDER?
...BUT YOU LOCKED ALL THE WINDOWS.
AND THAT'S WHY I THOUGHT YOU WOULD DEFINITELY COME TO DISPOSE OF FUJIEDA-SEMPAI'S CORPSE THAT YOU HID IN THE FIRESTORM.
AH, WELL YOU MADE A LITTLE BIT OF A MISTAKE...!
BUT, MORE IMPORTANTLY, I'D LIKE TO ASK YOU SOMETHING, TAKITO.
WHY DID YOU SUSPECT ME?

WHEN WE ALL MET IN FRONT OF THE BIOLOGY CLASSROOM, I NOTICED THOSE SCRATCHES.
WOAH, TAKATO AND EVEN HIMENO-SENSEI.
YES.
...MY MISTAKE?
WAS THIS...
...YOU WERE THE ONLY ONE WHO CONTINUED TO WEAR LONG SLEEVES TO HIDE YOUR ARMS, WHICH CAUGHT MY EYE.
THE NEXT DAY, EVEN THOUGH IT WAS AN UNSEASONABLY HOT DAY...
...THAT THOSE SCRATCHES COULD BE SEEN BELOW YOUR SLEEVE.
YOU LIKELY HADN'T NOTICED ...
IF I HAD, THEN FUJIEDA-SEMPAI WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ABLE TO SCRATCH ME UP LIKE THIS...
I REALLY SHOULD HAVE KNOCKED HER OUT WITH A BAT OR SOMETHING BEFORE I CHOKED HER!
YEAH, I SCREWED THAT ONE UP.


BUT AT LEAST I DID THE RIGHT THING BY HIDING THE REST OF THE BODY IN THE SCHOOL BONFIRE.
YEAHHH... I WAS THIS CLOSE TO BEING AT MY WIT'S END...
...TO PROCESS THE PHOTO OF FUJIEDA-SEMPAI'S HEAD, THEN YOU HAD TO SET UP THE SITE, AND THEN EMAIL EVERYONE...
JUST AS I DID, YOU USED THE COMPUTER AND PRINTER IN THE CLUB ROOM...
HOWEVER ON THE DAY OF THE MURDER, YOU CERTAINLY HAD A LOT TO DO, AND MISSED IT
IF YOU'D REALIZED YOU HAD THOSE AT THE START, YOU PROBABLY WOULD HAVE DONE SOMETHING TO COVER THEM UP.
....
ALTHOUGH I GUESS IN THE END, YOU SAW THROUGH ME ANYWAY!
...MY SKIN AND BLOOD WOULD'VE BEEN DISCOVERED, AND I'D HAVE BEEN CAUGHT QUICKLY...
IF I'D LEFT IT WHERE SOMEONE COULD FIND IT, AND THEY LOOKED UNDER HER FINGERNAILS...
YEAH! EXACTLY!
I GUESS YOU COULD SAY IT WAS JUST AN ACT STAGED TO COMPLEMENT THE SEVERED HEAD DISAPPEARANCE TRICK...
I'M NOT REALLY INTERESTED IN THAT.
HEY, AREN'T YOU GONNA ASK ABOUT KUROE-SEMPAI?

...I PURPOSELY ALLOWED YOU GUYS TO LOOK THROUGH THE NEWSPAPER SLOT WITH BOTH EYES.
SO WHEN IT CAME TIME TO MAKE MYSELF THE SECOND SACRIFICE
...IT WAS ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL THAT PEOPLE BE LOOKING THROUGH THE KEY-HOLE WITH ONLY ONE EYE.
IN ORDER FOR THE HEAD DISAP-PEARANCE TRICK TO WORK...
JUMP
THE POWER WENT OUT!
....
K... KIRI-SHIMA ..!!
EEK!
....
CLK
BOOM
FFT

AND THEN THE LAST STEP WAS LETTING YOU JUST DISCOVER KUROE'S HEAD IN THE FLESH
BY GOING FROM 2D TO 3D TO THE REAL THING...
...IT MADE YOU ALL COMPLETELY DISCARD THE FACT THAT YOU SAW THE FIRST MURDER ONLY WITH ONE EYE.
AND THE APPEARANCE OF THE THIRD VICTIM WHEN YOU WERE 'ALREADY DEAD'...
ESSENTIALLY GAVE YOU A FLAWLESS ALIBI...
RIGHT! I MEAN, I'M ALREADY DEAD, AFTER ALL
THOUGH THE TRUTH IS I WANTED TO KILL HIMENO SENSEI LAST OF ALL NOT KUROE
HE STUCK HIS NOSE WHERE IT DIDN'T BELONG THOUGH
KIRISHIMA, WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN SECRETLY DOING ON THE CLUB ROOM COMPUTER?
HUH? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, KUROE-SEMPAI?
DON'T PLAY DUMB!
I KNOW IT ALL!

I'VE BEEN MONITORING THAT COMPUTER WITH A KEYLOGGER.
AFTER FUJIEDA WAS KILLED, THERE WAS EVIDENCE THAT SOMEONE USED THE COMPUTER
I THOUGHT THAT WAS STRANGE, SO I CHECKED IT OUT. AND IT TURNED OUT YOUR ID WAS LOGGED IN
YOU'RE HIDING SOMETHING, AREN'T YOU?
DUN
IT COULDN'T BE THAT YOU'RE THE ONE WHO...
HUH?
SO YOU KNEW THAT MUCH, BUT YOU STILL DECIDED TO COME MEET ME ALONE? THAT'S WHY EVEN IF YOU WERE THE TOP SCORER FOR YOUR INCOMING CLASS...
...YOU SURE DIDN'T GET EVERY QUESTION ON THE TEST RIGHT, EH KUROE-SEMPAI?

I REALLY WANTED TO END WITH A PRETTY GIRL'S SEVERED HEAD...
HA HA HA
AW, MAN...
IT WAS PRETTY MUCH AN ACCIDENT, YOU KNOW!
YOICHI TAKATO?
DON'T YOU AGREE...
YOU CAN SEE THE ACTUAL PICTURE USED IN THE DISAPPEARING HEAD TRICK ON THE NEXT PAGE!

...WAS YOUR REASON REALLY BECAUSE SHE'S BEAUTIFUL AND THAT'S ALL?
YOU SAID YOU'D ORIGINALLY PLANNED TO KILL HIMENO-SENSEI LAST OF ALL. BUT...
KINDAICHI CASE FILES: TAKATO'S SIDE
BY SEIMARU AMAGI AND YUMIYA SATO
WELL, IT WAS BECAUSE THE TWO OF YOU ARE ON SUCH INTIMATE TERMS.
WELL, THAT IS ONE REASON, BUT I'VE GOT ANOTHER REASON TOO.
...WHAT'S THE REASON?

Translated by Abby Lehrke
Adaptation by Tania Fukuda
YKS SERVICES, LLC / SKY JAPAN, Inc.

I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT YOU'RE TRYING TO SAY..
OH... WELL, IN OTHER WORDS...
I WAS AFRAID SHE MIGHT MAKE YOU GO SOFT.
WELL, WHEN YOU HAVE SOMETHING ON YOUR MIND, YOU ALWAYS GO TO HER.
...WHY IS THAT A REASON TO KILL HER?
WE WERE BOTH CRIMINALS FROM THE DAY WE WERE BORN, YOU SEE?
YOU AND I ARE ALIKE!

THE MURDEROUS INTENT THAT YOU NORMALLY HIDE FROM EVERYONE AT ALL COSTS...
...I RECOGNIZED IT IMMEDIATELY.
YOU SEE, I'M THE SAME!
AND I COULDN'T STAND THE POSSIBILITY THAT SUCH A VALUABLE AND RARE FIND..
..COULD POSSIBLY BE WORN DOWN BY THAT BORING LADY TEACHER!
FUJIEDA SEMPAI WAS JUST THE SAME!
JEEZ! SHE GOT SO HIGH AND MIGHTY, JUST BECAUSE SHE WON A LITTLE PRIZE WITH HER TRICKS.
AND I SAW RIGHT THROUGH HER INTEREST IN YOU!
I ABSOLUTELY HAD TO PASS JUDGMENT ON THOSE TWO FILTHY BITCHES.
....
...WELL, ANYWAY.
ON ONE HAND I'M FRUSTRATED THAT YOU SAW RIGHT THROUGH ME, BUT ON THE OTHER HAND, I'M A LITTLE HAPPY.

TAKATO! YOU AND I ARE GREAT MINDS THAT THINK ALIKE!
....
IT KNOW IT FOR SURE NOW!
...WHAT'S YOUR PLAN NOW, KIRI-SHIMA?
HEE HEE, IT'S OBVI-OUS, ISN'T IT?
I KILLED JUNPEI KIRISHIMA, THE ORDINARY, BORING HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT.
NOW I DON'T HAVE TO PRETEND TO BE NORMAL AND CONTINUE THAT BORING LIFE!
RIGHT ABOUT NOW, MY NORMALLY ABSENT PARENTS WILL BE RETURNING HOME...
...TO GIVE "JUNPEI KIRISHIMA" A PROPER FUNERAL.
FIRST, I'M GOING TO SET THE HOUSE ON FIRE AND KILL THE TWO OF THEM
THEY ALWAYS FORCED ME TO LIVE A LIE AND KEEP UP APPEARANCES!
AND I'LL GET AHOLD OF THE INHERITANCE AND USE IT TO START MY NEW LIFE!

TAKATO!
HEY! YOU COME TOO!
IF YOU AND I TEAM UP...
...WE'LL BE ABLE TO DO WAY MORE INTER-ESTING STUFF!
LET'S TAKE THIS WORLD FULL OF PEOPLE SOAKED HEAD TO FEET IN THEIR BORING LIVES...
...AND DRIVE THEM TO THE DEPTHS OF FEAR TOGETHER!
WITH OUR CRUEL AND BEAUTIFUL BLOODY MAGIC SHOWS!

BLINK
YOU'RE SUCH A CHILD...
...?!
7
MPH
AS I'VE LISTENED TO YOUR BABBLING...
WHEN YOU FEEL YOU'VE BEEN INSULTED...
...YOU IMMEDIATELY LOSE YOUR TEMPER IN A VERY OBVIOUS WAY.
THE MOTIVE FOR YOUR CRIMES IS TRULY SIMPLE AND OBVIOUSLY A RESULT OF YOUR AGGRESSIVE NARCISSISM.
...ALL I HEARD WAS AN IRRATIONAL CHILD THROWING A FIT.
THE CRIMES YOU'VE COMMITTED AREN'T BEAUTIFUL IN ANY WAY...!

YOU AND I ARE NOTHING ALIKE.
YOU'RE MERELY A RANDOM HEDONISTIC THRILL KILLER.
....
THE ONLY THING YOU DESERVE IS TO BE CLAPPED IN IRONS AND SENT TO PRISON
THOUGH I SUPPOSE AT YOUR AGE THEY'LL SEND YOU TO A REHABILITATION FACILITY INSTEAD OF PRISON.
BUT FOR YOU, I SUPPOSE THE END RESULT WILL BE THE SAME.
YOU'RE EXACTLY RIGHT, TAKATO.

...MY KILLER'S IMPULSE COULD NOT BE REINED IN.
NO MATTER HOW MUCH THEY TRIED TO REEDU-CATE ME...
...I REALLY HAD COME TO LIKE YOU QUITE A LOT.
....
SUCH A SHAME, TAKATO...
SHF
AFTER ALL, THAT DETECTIVE ALREADY SUSPECTS YOU...
....
...BE THE "REAPER MAGICIAN" IN MY PLACE.
OH WELL! I'D REALLY APPRECIATE IT IF YOU COULD...
....
...WHA?
PWIP

KINDAICHI CASE FILES: TAKATO'S SIDE
BY SEIMA KIZUKI AND FUMIYA SATO
NOW IT'S TIME FOR MY DEBUT...
...REAPER MAGICIAN.
Translated by Abby Lehrke
Adaptation by Tania Fukuda
YKS SERVICES LLC / SKY JAPAN Inc
THIS STORY IS FICTIONAL AND COMPLETELY UNRELATED TO REAL PEOPLE, GROUPS, OR EVENTS.

PWIP
!
FWOOSH
I PRESENT TO YOU...
...A ROSE AS RED AS BLOOD!
FLOW...

BAM
WHA...
FWUMP
NGH
COUGH
THE ROSE TURNED INTO A KNIFE...
WHAT THE...?! THIS IS NUTS... HA HA...

YOU DIDN'T HESITATE AT ALL... HA... HAHA.
YOU REALLY ARE... A GENIUS...
...INTENDING FOR ME TO TURN THE KNIFE ON YOU.
YOU PROVOKED ME... ATTEMPTED TO KILL ME...
WHAT... WERE YOU LOOKING AT?
....
...YOU WERE STARING OUT THE WINDOW RIGHT?
BACK THEN... IN YOSHIDA'S ENGLISH CLASS...
WOULD YOU JUST... TELL ME ONE THING... BEFORE I GO?
WHAT IS IT, KIRISHIMA.
THE MOON...?! IN THE MIDDLE OF THE DAY...?
THE MOON.

THE MOON THAT SHINES SO BRIGHTLY AT NIGHT...
...ALSO APPEARS IN THE DAYTIME, ALBEIT IN A FAINT AND FLEETING FORM.
I WAS THINKING... THAT'S A LOT LIKE MY EXISTENCE RIGHT NOW.
HEH... HEH HEH...
TAKATO... YOU REALLY NEED TO...
....SHINE IN THE DARK OF THE NIGHT.
ON ANOTHER NOTE... WHAT NUMBER AM I ON YOUR VICTIM'S LIST...?
OH... NO, YOU'RE MY FIRST.
...IS THAT... SO?
H... HOW... DOES IT... FEEL...?

....
NOT REALLY...
...ANY DIFFER-ENT THAN USUAL.

JUN-PEI KIRI-SHIMA.
GOOD BYE AND GOOD LUCK,
BOOSH
ゴォォ
FWOOM
CRACKLE
CRACKLE
I IMA-GINE...
...WE'LL BE MEETING IN HELL, ONE OF THESE DAYS.

...JUST LOOKING AT THE MOON.
HUH?! WHY?!
KACHK
YO-ICHI ?!
WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN DOING OUT THIS LATE?!
JUMP
....
IS THERE SOME-THING WRONG WITH THAT?
GOOD NIGHT.
JUST GO TO BED!!
I DON'T CARE!
....
IT MUST BE TRUE...! HE REALLY IS...
THAT DEMON'S ...!!
DAMN IT!
KRASH

INSIDE THE FIRE-STORM THAT WENT UP IN FLAMES LAST NIGHT...
...TWO CHARRED, HEADLESS BODIES WERE FOUND.
ONE OF THEM WAS LIKELY TSUBAKI FUJI-EDA'S.
THE OTHER WAS JUNPEI KIRI-SHIMA'S.
WEEOOO
WEEOOO
WEEOOO
Music Room
KIRISHIMA'S HEAD HAS YET TO BE FOUND.
BUT WHY ARE YOU TELLING ME ALL OF THIS, DETECTIVE GONDOU?
....
I SEE...
PLINK

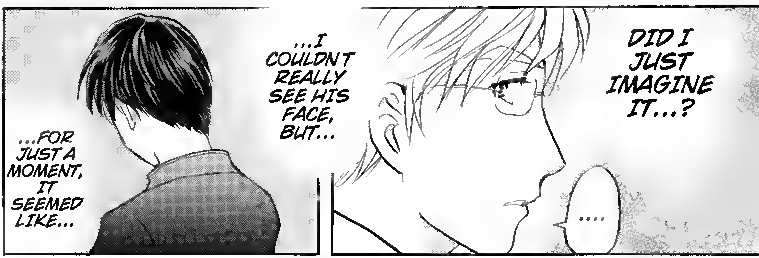
...AND STARTED THE FIRE IN THE FIRESTORM TO CLEAN UP THE BODIES THAT-
PERHAPS YOU WALKED TO THE SCHOOL FROM THERE...
...THAT YOU DIDN'T GO HOME, AND THAT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE RIDE YOU APPARENTLY GOT OFF AT A PARK.
THE OFFICER THAT TOOK YOU HOME IN THE PATROL CAR LAST NIGHT TOLD ME...
PLEASE STOP FOLLOWING ME AROUND ON NOTHING MORE THAN A HUNCH.
NOW, IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME...
PLUS, THE WAY THAT THE SERIES OF MURDERS PLAYED OUT, HOW COULD I HAVE POSSIBLY KILLED THOSE THREE PEOPLE?
HMPH...!
...MY FATHER WAS WAITING UP, SO IT WOULD HAVE BEEN TOUGH TO GO RIGHT HOME, AND I JUST TOOK THE LONG WAY...
PLEASE STOP, DETECTIVE...
...THE MAGICAL HORROR-SHOW PUT ON BY THE REAPER MAGICIAN.
AND WITH THAT, THE CURTAIN FELL ON...

YES...
MY TRUE SELF IS ONLY REVEALED AT NIGHT.
ONLY THE MOON KNOWS WHAT IT'S LIKE...
...TO SHINE IN THE DARK-NESS.

BEETHOVEN'S "MOONLIGHT SONATA!"
NOT A BAD PIANO PERFORMANCE, RIGHT MISS HIMENO?
YES. HE'S A GENIUS, MUCH LIKE YOURSELF.
BUT YOU KNOW... THAT TERRIBLE INCIDENT THAT OCCURRED IN THE SCHOOL RECENTLY?
THE VICTIMS WERE ALL FRIENDS OF HIS, IN THE SAME MAGIC CLUB...
HE DOESN'T SHOW HIS EMOTIONS VERY MUCH...
...BUT I SUSPECT IT WAS A REAL SHOCK TO HIM, TOO.
I REALLY WANT TO WATCH OVER HIM...
AH, I SEE.
AH, THAT'S RIGHT, I HEARD...
...THAT EVEN THOUGH YOU PASSED THE BAR EXAM, AND AT SUCH A YOUNG AGE...
...YOU PLAN ON BECOMING A DETECTIVE?
...YES.
HEE HEE... IF ONLY YOU HAD BEEN HERE DURING THIS LATEST INCIDENT...
...I WONDER IF YOU WOULD HAVE BEEN ABLE TO SOLVE IT, HM?

AKECHI-KUN!
....
WELL, THIS IS NO PLACE TO HAVE A GOOD CONVER-SATION, LET'S GO TO THE OFFICE.
I'LL PUT ON SOME TEA.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH, MISS HIMENO.

!!
HM? WHAT'S THE MATTER, AKECHI-KUN?
OH, IT'S NOTHING.


DID I JUST IMAGINE IT...?
....
...I COULDN'T REALLY SEE HIS FACE, BUT...
...FOR JUST A MOMENT, IT SEEMED LIKE...

...HE WAS SMILING.
KINDAICHI CASE FILES: TAKATO'S SIDE - END